SAN FRANCISCO
Bay Times

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THE GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL NEWSPAPER & CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

Photo by Marc Geller

LIFE Lobby Post-VETO ALERT:

"Homos, repent or die"

That's the real agenda of the religious right. Gloating over the veto, they're saying it out loud now: "Extend the death penalty to unrepentant homosexuals, abortionists, and adulterers".

FIRST THE AB 101 VETO, NOW Lou Sheldon, the Traditional Values Coalition, announces he's expanding his forces in Sacramento to FOUR lobbyists.

Now these religious supremacists outnumber us 4 to 1 in lobbyists... and 10 to 1 in money.

Yep. They're gearing up for next steps on their frightful agenda of hate. First the veto, then stop AIDS funding, mandate testing and quarantine, reinstate the sodomy laws... in short, deny our right to exist anyway they can. It's all one issue to them. And they're ready to make the voice of hate and bigotry heard.

LIFE Lobby is here in Sacramento to respond. We must respond. But we desperately need your help. Our AB 101 grassroots campaign brought in over 100,000 postcards and letters of support... but we can't even afford a single Action Alert mailing to you — or any of the hundreds of thousands like you who really care.

When *you* respond *we* have the power to stop *them*. Look what we did last year: With your postcards, we killed a mandatory quarantine bill for people with HIV ...killed a censorship bill designed to eliminate the words "homosexual" and "gay" and "lesbian" in public schools ...killed the "manifesto" bill of religious supremacists who want to legislate us out of existence altogether. And we got AB 101 through the legislature.

> "If they [homosexuals] don't repent, the Bible says that they ought to be put to death. It's just a matter of what God says."
>
> — *Rev. Leonard Coppes, 1991*

Bigot — Read My Decal!

Support Project 101 and get this Fab Decal! Suitable for Home, Office or Auto: in Strident Pink and Nautilaus Grey.

But now LIFE Lobby faces 4 to 1 odds. We cannot lobby without you! We need you in our grassroots network. We need the bucks to contact you. We need the resources to make your voice heard.

Unless you step in immediately, your voice will be lost in a tidal wave of gay-bashing bigotry.

Join today in PROJECT 101... **our goal, our immediate need: raise $101,000 in 101 days. Join and become a LIFE SUPPORT activist.**

Your support will...

▲ **hire** at least one person to help stop the bigots;

▲ **organize** ready-response teams district-by-district to beat back their agenda of repression and hate.

▲ **poll** California voters —on our issues in our own words — the only poll that can give us the winning edge in any veto-response campaigns ... in the Capitol or ballot box;

Sign up. Open your checkbook. Give us your voice to roar with.

LET'S GET'EM, LIFE LOBBY!

Count me in PROJECT 101 as a LIFE Support Activist. Send me action info — and that Fab decal! LET'S ROAR!

☐ $25 ☐ $35 ☐ $50 ☐ $75 ☐ $100 ☐ Bless you! $_____

Make your check payable to LIFE.

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LETTERS

Defusing The Gay Vote

The unfortunate election of Frank Jordan, Mayor, is largely attributable to the hubris of gay and lesbian political leaders who supported the failed candidacies of Hongisto and Alioto. Regardless of these candidates' intellectual abilities and support for gay issues, they did not deserve gay votes simply because their constituencies represented only a fraction of Agnos' support. The principal effect of their candidacies was to diffuse the gay vote in the primary and deny the mayoralty to Agnos.

Our gay leaders have apparently forgotten that our political muscle depends upon block voting. Gays and lesbians do not have the luxury of unfocused political action if we expect to influence future elections in San Francisco.

There is no doubt that Agnos made many political enemies during his first term. Uncounted egos were bruised and psyches scarred, but we must remember the purpose of the gay community's participation in the political process is to maintain a gay political base of power at City Hall. Gay votes will count only if we have political leaders who are able to place service to the gay community ahead of their personal vendettas and agenda. As much as we might wish it otherwise, all elections are resolved by a vote for the lesser of two evils. This time, because we were unable to agree on our candidate, theirs won.

Chal Cochran
San Francisco

Recall 1934

Now that we have a mayor who wants to return to the good old days, we could start with 1934, the year of the San Francisco General Strike. Agnos had promised to lay off city workers in 1992, and we can expect Jordan to deliver on that promise. Labor could realize Jordan's wish for the past, recalling 1934.

Lee Heller
San Francisco

Operation Sunset Storm

It grieves me to inform you today that Operation Castro Shield has failed. All our diplomatic efforts were unable to prevent the violent takeover of our city by hostile foreign interlopers, who would impose their savage alien culture and medieval beliefs on our peace-loving land and people. They have made this conquest under the guise of having ancient claim to our territory, which they say must be put "Back On Track."

Yea, though we are a peaceful people, we have always stood by our allies in their time of need. Let it not be said that we prosperous gay white men stood by while these barbarians ran roughshod over the less fortunate. And that is why today I am announcing that we have no choice but to begin Operation Sunset Storm.

I am calling on all good queers to do their duty and move immediately to the Sunset, to buy houses there, establish businesses there, paper their bus stops and telephone poles with stickers and flyers, have sex in their alleys. I know what I am asking you to sacrifice—the company of attractive people, Cafe Flore, good weather.

But we must all sacrifice to rid the world of this man, this monster: Quentin Kopp. This is our manifest destiny now, to destroy the power base, the platform, from which this man spreads his poison throughout the world. For too long he has taken for granted our lack of interest in his part of the world, his tiny kingdom. No more! Our brave troops will penetrate his evil empire and they will *register to vote in his district*. No, we will not rest; we will not sleep; we will not surrender our way of life to this man! And next election, *our* victory will be as swift as it is certain!

Orland Outland
San Francisco

Fractionalized Community

The other night I had a bad dream.

It started off well enough...I found myself holding hands in a circle of different kinds of people. Our hearts and minds were open, facing outwards at a landscape pockmarked by hate, ignorance and misunderstanding. Safety came from our sense of community, united not so much in an "us vs. them" reaction, but more a "strength through diversity can overcome" proaction. Our hopes were high to affect positive change through honesty, humor and pride. I felt bright, joyous, empowered.

Then the dream darkened. Like Eden's apple of sudden self-consciousness, one of us curiously turned around to scrutinize the circle itself and didn't like what they saw. Each person was imperfectly human, blemished by the sores of an insidious disease, like cancer from second-hand smoke. Some had sexism—not incurable, just insensitive. Some had racism—not by choice, but by upbringing. Classism, ageism—the P.C. concern turned into recrimination as the person asked, "How can we dare to shatter the ceiling of oppression when we ourselves live inside glass walls?"

It was a question worth asking, I guess. Each of us hurriedly turned inwards to answer, to discuss, to explain—and all at the same time, so no one heard anyone. But everyone saw the outline of differences between us. Hands parted. The circle fractured, as individuals walked away betrayed and disillusioned. Only distrust remained.

Sure, there were sudden solar flares of action, attempts at resurrection. But like a dying sun, the circle painstakingly collapsed under its own weight of words and endless process. From a dark star of self-absorption to a black hole, finally only a vacuum served as evidence of its existence. It was murder pure and simple, but by so many hands, who could tell if it was homicide or suicide?

When I awoke, the nightmare faded quickly. But a nagging doubt remains.

Once I believed that a common characteristic like race or sex or sexuality was enough to unite a people into accomplishing any goal. I am no longer so naive.

By whatever name we call ourselves, I wonder if we shall ever be victorious in our fight for equal protection under the law. As we've seen with the Thomas confirmation, just because you're Black doesn't mean you share the same agenda as other Blacks. Our community is equally fractionalized by competing agendas. Missing the forest for the trees will always put us at odds with each other, diluting our strength. Are we destined to forever be the losers in our fight against the religious, conservative status quo who suffer from no such "diversity?"

I am not without hope. In this time of year when some of us join in celebrating the birth of a man who single-handedly made a difference, each of us can learn by his example. Whether you do it on your own or within a group like Queer Nation, it is the accumulation of these single acts of honesty and pride that will turn the tide on all oppression. I'm glad I played a small part.

Queer Nation is Dead!! Long live Queer Nation!!

Steve Mehall
San Francisco

A True Original

SF Bay Times columnist Don Baird's insights into the late-night world of entertainment in our community are always useful and usually unique. However, it is Baird's uncanny ability for sharp, piercing observations on the too often hidden humor of our modern gay lifestyles, and pop culture in general, that make him a truly original social commentator—hiding behind the guise of rock critic.

D. Robert Foster
San Francisco

More On Drug Etiquette

As a longtime drug and alcohol enthusiast, and a firm believer in good manners, I was very gratified to read Don Baird's column in the *SF Bay Times* of Dec. 5 (Miss Manners on Drugs). There are, however, three little rules that I think must have been omitted for lack of space, because Don knows them just as well as I do.

(1) If you and your roommate/best friend have been awake for a year-and-a-half and things get a little tense in the flat and a cleaning utensil connects with someone's anatomy, take a year or so to cool off, then kiss and make up. Life is too short to stay mad; you might miss out on a great connection and you can always buy another broom.

(2) If someone offers you drugs and, due to some form of insanity, you have an urge to Just Say No, please don't do it. Just say "No, thank you."

(3) Buy your own occasionally.

Remember: Mr. Politeness Man is always watching and that steel hanky hurts.

Kevin Stanton
Houston, Texas

Is Oral Sex Safe?

As a safer-sex educator, I seem to hear the same questions over and over. The one asked the most by gay and bisexual men: "Is oral sex safe?"

Ten years into the HIV/AIDS epidemic, you'd expect that answers would exist for such important questions. Yet the question keeps coming up, and it's still hard to know what advice to give. Partly this is because "oral sex" is a term covering a broad range of different activities—on men or women, swallowing or not, etc. More importantly, there has been very little research on the topic.

I am beginning a research project on this crucial question. The research is sponsored by the Department of Health Science at San Jose State University.

We are looking for gay and bisexual men with HIV disease (with or without symptoms of AIDS diagnosis) who believe they may have been infected through oral sex. The study involves a 1-2 hour interview. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

If you would like to participate, or would like more information, please call (415) 341-1340. You might be able to help find answers to the questions about oral sex. Thank you very much.

Andrew Gans
San Mateo

The Sodomy Taboo

I realize this may just sound grossly stupid, but we gay men know something from experience that a couple of billion men in this world also know, albeit murkily. And that is that the anal cavity of the male body (I leave it to women to speak for themselves on this matter) is capable of *exquisite sexual pleasure*.

Why do straight men, in their anger, almost invariably threaten to sodomize ("fuck you!") each other? Why does anger evoke their thoughts of sodomy? Why do their thoughts of sodomy evoke thoughts of injury, even murder?

Banish the thought that men murder because they can't fuck each other instead. Let's not be simple and clear here. It might mean something!

And yet, and yet, what if the very first murder in this world of one man by another was an act of sodomy?

I can see it now: Two men are going at it. Lo and behold, one of the men dies in the act. The other concludes that the act itself is an act of murder.

Haven't you noticed that AIDS has made the act of placing the penis into a male anal cavity, etc., an *act of murder*?

Until the sodomy taboo is washed, effaced away from the male psyche, murder will continue. When this occurs, and I predict that it will, murder will cease and peace will come to this world, speakest I, who know nothing but grossness and stupidity.

And yet, all! those asses. And so unplummeted.

Leland Mellott
San Francisco

Implement Clean Needle Exchange

An open letter to Ray Baxter, Director of the Department of Public Health:

The Community Consortium is an association of over 200 Bay Area health care providers who care for the majority of people with HIV disease in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our goals are to keep ourselves educated about the ever-changing AIDS knowledge base, to conduct community-based clinical trials of promising experimental therapies, and to respond as a group to issues that have a direct impact on the health care of people with HIV disease.

We are writing at this time to urge the Department of Public Health to adopt an effective plan for clean needle exchange. Many of us have advocated for such a program since the beginning of the epidemic. Although at that time it was not widely felt to be the proper path to take, by now several studies have demonstrated that the implementation of needle exchange programs have had an impact on reducing transmission of HIV disease. Pilot programs in New Haven and Australia have clearly shown a decrease in the prevalence of HIV in the returned "works." The state of Hawaii has a state-legislated needle exchange program which to-date has proven quite effective in slowing the spread of HIV infection in injection drug users. The health departments of six

(continued on page 16)

LETTER INFO:

Deadline for letters to appear in the January 2 issue is December 27. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address *and* phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

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Performers clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events should mail or fax notices so that they reach us by 6PM the Friday prior to publication. We cannot take listings by phone.

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BY TIM KINGSTON

"Queer Nation exists in our hearts and minds, [but] it is just not there right now," says Al Kielwasser, calling himself a current member of a former organization. On Dec. 4, the general body of Queer Nation/San Francisco was laid to rest after an acrimonious general-body debate on the inability of Queer Nation to adopt a set of guidelines prohibiting racist, sexist, anti-Semitic and homophobic comments.

Queer National Allen Carson says the debate occurred after he and a few other veteran members of the group tried a last-ditch effort to write a statement of purpose and "implied rules" of the group for that meeting. When that effort was thwarted, the majority of those present got up and walked out.

raher. "I think a lot about Queer Nation. It was very formative for me and a lot of other people. It will continue to have repercussions in our lives for a number of years."

While the general body is down for the count—at least for three months—LABIA, United Colors and UBIQUITOUS (the women's, people of color and bisexual focus groups, respectively) continue to function, hold meetings and plan actions.

Allen Carlson and John Woods, the two facilitators who stormed out of Queer Nation on Dec. 4, are co-founding a new direct-action group entitled "Outrage," which shares the name with a British activist group in London.

Carlson and Woods say "Outrage" will continue the task of direct action to fight homophobia, with the twist of targeting not only homophobic groups, but also nailing racist and sexist organizations outside *and* inside the community. Woods

COUP DE GRACE

The immediate cause of Queer Nation's demise was due to a vicious internal debate. This involved Queer Nation members Mitchell Halberstadt and Dean Tuckerman, and their opposition to proposed guidelines around sexist and racist language and behavior. This debate was exacerbated by personal conflicts between Halberstadt and several other Queer Nation members. Meetings, apparently, often ended in yelling sessions, preventing any real work getting done in the organization. Herron says this dynamic degenerated into "middle-aged fat men screaming at each other."

Sushawn Robb, one of the few women left in Queer Nation by December, quit in disgust when Halberstadt and Tuckerman blocked John Woods' late-November proposal to make racist, sexist and anti-Semitic comments unacceptable. She says,

names. My politics are anti-authoritarian. I felt that what has been going on in Queer Nation...has been a power grab by would-be bureaucrats."

Halberstadt says he flatly opposes bigotry, but argues that laws preventing the use of certain terms and language does nothing to actually rid the world of prejudice. As far as people of color and women feeling safe in meetings goes, he argues, "The best way to deal with issues of safety is to work with...people's strengths and weaknesses." Instead, Halberstadt says that he was accused of being psychotic. Halberstadt also charges that at one meeting Frank Herron threatened to call the police on him, or to beat him up.

Herron agrees that he told Halberstadt on one occasion that, "if he is threatening to people I care about...I would do anything I could to restrain him." But Herron alleges he only said that *after*

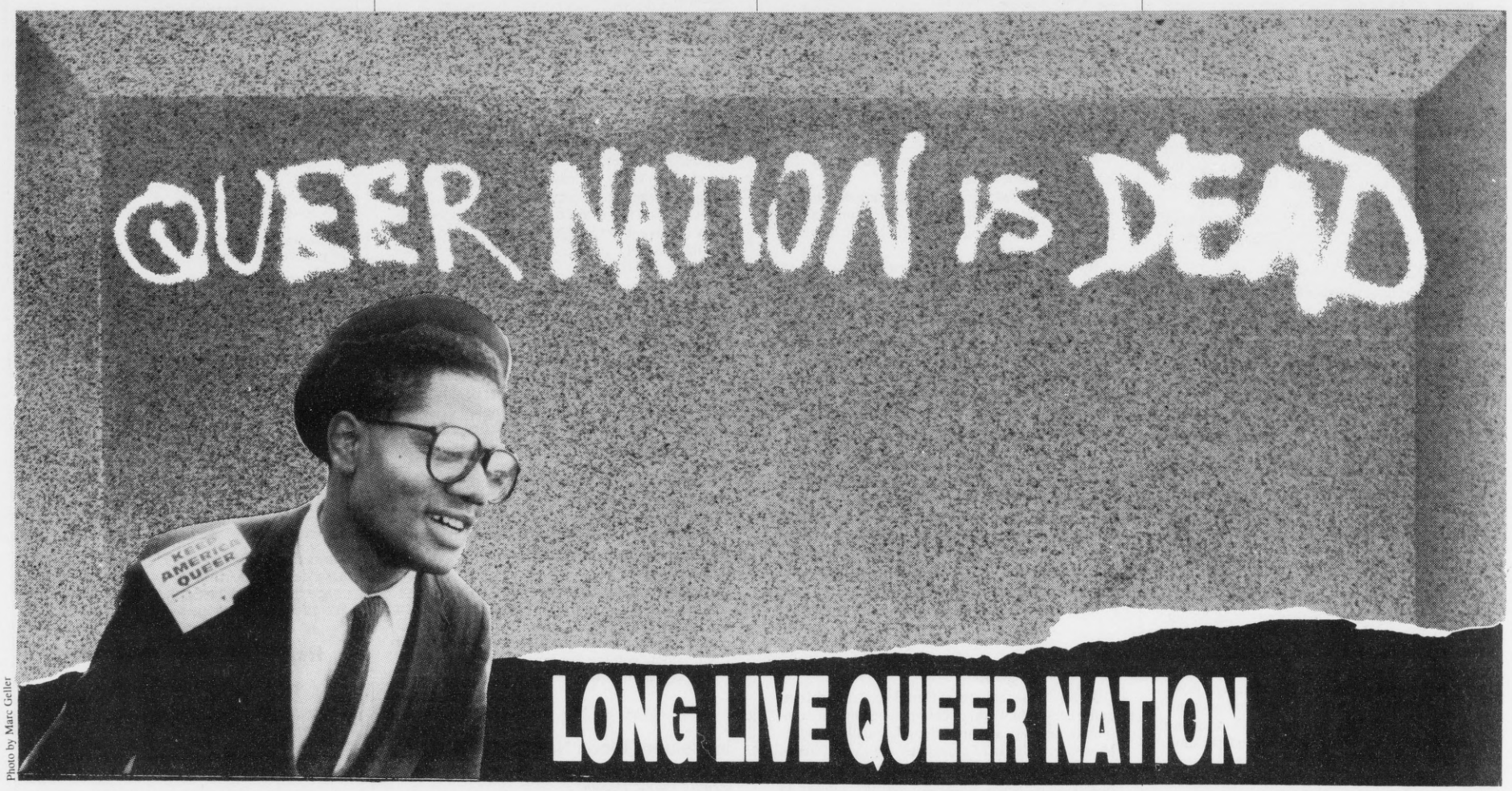

Photo by Marc Geller

Officially, Queer Nation is going into a "hiatus" until March 4—the day the next general-body meeting is planned—but unofficially, most activists contacted by *SF Bay Times* say the San Francisco chapter is dead.

The burial comes as no surprise to anyone closely associated with Queer Nation over the past months. They say a funeral was long in the offing and was the result of both a series of bruising internal debates and the appearance that Queer Nation had become entangled in some of the less-savory aspects of the mayor's race. Attendance at general-body meetings dropped precipitously, from hundreds in the early days, down to only eight to 25 attendees during the last few weeks.

"I really look at it as a wonderful party, a big convention that went on for awhile and established a lot of connections," says Christine Carraher of UBIQUITOUS, the bisexual focus group of Queer Nation. She says Queer Nation 'passed on' sometime in September, and jokes that a number of former Queer Nation members were actually planning a funeral for the group, but held off because of the successful work John Woods, one of the few experienced members left, was doing around the Queer Scouts campaign.

"I was quite prepared for it to be over, which it has been for a number of months. I think we accomplished a number of things on a political level, but [Queer Nation] was more of a beacon and an ideal than a specific political event," smiles Carsays he and Carlson are already contacting groups such as the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, the former Black Caucus of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club and women's groups for their input. Woods says "Outrage" will be more structured than Queer Nation and will ask for more than simply attending meetings from its members. "We are going to attempt to learn from some of Queer Nation's mistakes. We also want to make it clear that it is not a group for white male egomaniacs."

Frank Herron, a longtime member of Queer Nation, denies that the organization has keeled over and dropped deader than the Monty Python Parrot. He argues that the three month "hiatus" is a momentary pause. "What we will do in the meantime is expand the Queer-Line, and a number of the focus groups will take on a more predominant role. One of the primary focuses is the employment anti-discrimination initiative [the initiative-successor to AB101], and we might be calling it Big Pink." Herron stresses that Queer Nation around the United States continues to conduct outreach and visibility actions, such as the campaign against the homophobia of the Cracker Barrel chain of restaurants that has received national attention. He also notes the instrumental role that Queer Nation/New Orleans played in prodding the city council to adopt a wide-ranging anti-discrimination ordinance that prohibits homophobia in employment and public accommodation.

"If a group cannot accept that very basic anti-racist perspective, it has no chance of becoming anything but the small group of white men that it was." Judy Helfand, another woman who recently quit the group, said it was not just Halberstadt. "There were a few bullies: white boys who felt that whatever was important to them had to be the group's agenda, and [they] had no interest in hearing what anyone else had to say."

Kielwasser lays substantive blame for the final disintegration of Queer Nation at Halberstadt's door, saying Halberstadt consistently refused to hear issues of racism or sexism that were brought up at meetings and that Halberstadt blocked every attempt made to deal with those issues. Kielwasser says, "He was a person who felt the best way to make a point was to yell at or attack someone. People would speak about their experience as a woman or person of color and that they felt threatened, and he would characterize their comments as an attack of uniformity."

Halberstadt retorts that the attempt to turn the dispute into a discussion of his personality is "an attempt to invalidate political positions by attacking my character." He charges, "That is unconscionable, and I consider those to be gutter tactics."

The proposal was blocked, says Halberstadt, because he was afraid the terms, as used, would be hard to define and could be used for politically motivated abuse. "In general, I am more afraid of losing the First Amendment than being called

Halberstadt blocked a woman from leaving the meeting by slamming the door in front of her, subsequent to the two of them being in a heated disagreement, where Herron says Halberstadt first screamed at the woman and then prevented her from leaving the room. Several other Queer Nation members *SF Bay Times* spoke with accused Halberstadt of being abusive and impossible to work with. "He is a total pain in the ass," declared Queer Nation member Jeff Brooks, echoing comments made by many of those contacted.

UNDERLYING FISSURES

The one thing that Halberstadt and his critics agree on is that Queer Nation did not have sufficiently strong mechanisms to deal with internal conflicts, within the consensus process. Thus, when conflicts broke out, there were no means to resolve them. "We have people saying what you are doing is unacceptable, but there was nothing to do about it if they continued to behave in that fashion," says Brooks. He says because it was impossible to throw anyone out, "the frustration got so great people started leaving."

Right from the start, internal conflict was something Queer Nation had in abundance. The very nature and diversity of Queer Nation almost guaranteed there would be conflict within the group between the different genders, and between whites and people of color. Several Queer Nationals point out that women and people of color

never felt safe or secure in the general-body environment and began to set up United Colors and LABIA.

During the *Basic Instinct* protests, Queer Nation had its greatest success but, even then, problems arose when Jonathan Katz was accused of hogging the limelight and acting without consulting the rest of Queer Nation. He particularly incensed women in the organization, according to several members of Queer Nation, given that the whole point of protesting the movie was its misogyny—and then, they said, there was this man taking away the voice of the women involved in the protest.

"That is pure crap," replied Katz. He asserts he was not originally involved in the *Basic Instinct* controversy, but when "the ball got dropped" on media work, he picked it up. "In every single case in which I spoke with the media, I also gave a list of three or four women to contact."

Next came the dispute over whether or not police should be allowed to be members of Queer Nation, which ripped asunder political moderates and radicals. Brooks says Queer Nation did not know how to confront the fact "that certain people could be gay and not be our friends. So how can you be welcoming and draw limits? It was a problem with Lee Miletello [SFPD gay community liaison officer]; it was a problem with Michael Halberstadt; it was a problem with Jonathan Katz."

Finally, the splits were further exacerbated by the graffiti-ing of Roberta Achtenberg's house by a squad of Queer Nation members, despite the fact that those involved denied it was a "Queer Nation" action. UBIQUITOUS's Carraher says, "That caused a really huge problem, and a couple of the focus groups... sort of de facto left, LABIA and United Colors. That was very important—the heart sort of left. There was still a very strong force there, but its balance was not there."

Frustration also played a huge part in the problems suffered by Queer Nation, due to the very nature of those attracted to the group. "At the risk of being hated, there were a lot of people who were young—they yelled at the cops and the cops did not change, and they yelled at each other and they did not change, and they became immensely frustrated," says Brooks. And as Queer Nation took part in fewer and fewer actions, notes Katz, the social and political glue holding the group together weakened.

According to Karl Knapper and Don Chan Mark of United Colors, what happened to Queer Nation is almost a blow-by-blow replay of what happened to the Gay Liberation Front in the 1970s. Knapper says there was never enough sensitivity to issues regarding women and people of color. He asserts the community is not monolithic, but many in the group never really understood that, particularly as it became more and more of a gay white male group. "For gay white men, when the revolution comes, they will be OK. The rest of us will be shit out of luck, because we will have to deal with our oppressions that are not to do with being gay."

IN YOUR FACE

Despite all the critiques and problems, Queer Nation/San Francisco did, repeatedly, put the gay, lesbian and bisexual community right smack in the face of America. Queer Nation offshoots continue to be a thorn in the side of both straight white America and assimilationist gay culture; so surely, that is something to be proud of. Who knows, Queer Nation may just revive in April. LABIA's Helfand points out that there is a lot of organizing and ongoing activism in San Francisco that is the direct result of connections made through Queer Nation. She says, "It really deepens my commitment to deal with racism, economic oppression and sexism."

Is Queer Nation dead? Don Chan Mark, of United Colors, replies, "I don't feel that it is dead. The name is unimportant. Their legacy is spontaneity, public theater, political confrontation and an attempt at unification of the diverse elements in the queer community, including people of all genders and transgenders, and people of color."

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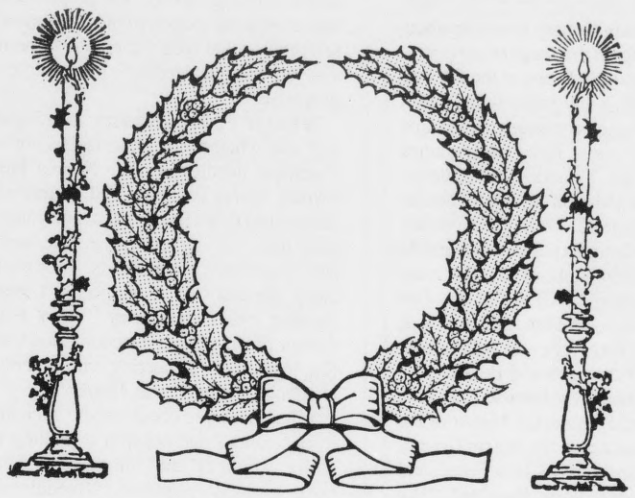

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Marin Needle Exchange: The Next in Line?

BY TIM KINGSTON

Everyone in Marin County is talking about needle exchange if the surge of support at a Dec. 9 community forum at the College of Marin in Kentfield is any indication. And if debate on needle exchange continues in the same vein, Marin could soon have pharmacies distributing clean needles, a clandestine needle exchange unit, and/or legislation for a pilot needle exchange—all by early 1992. The legislation may be co-sponsored by Marin Republican assembly member Dr. Bill Filante, one of the few state Republicans who supported AB101. If any one of these efforts goes into operation, the result will make Marin the third Bay Area city with needle exchange, after San Francisco and Berkeley.

"You have got to change the laws so I can give out syringes," declared Frederick Mayer at the forum. Mayer is president of the Marin County Pharmacists Association's AIDS Task Force, and father of National Condom week. He stated, "We have the syringes. We are ready to do it. We have 45 pharmacies in the county and five of them have said they will do needle exchange." Mayer challenged assembly member Filante to draft legislation to rescind California's anti-drug-paraphernalia laws, which make it a crime to provide syringes to anyone without a prescription.

But Filante has serious reservations about needle exchange sites, and says he will *only* support legislation if the pilot program includes provisions for an education, outreach and drug treatment program.

Filante parried Mayer's challenge by asking if the syringes would be provided free, implying that the only real obstacle to the legislation is money. Filante says that any "private sector" program where the state does not have to pay for the syringes could expedite the passage of a pilot needle exchange through the Assembly. "I am working on a course of action. We will support it if we can get the money," said Filante. Yet critics point out that Filante's desire for extensive education and drug treatment provisions in any pilot program would in themselves be prohibitively expensive.

After the forum, Filante told *SF Bay Times* that he may co-sponsor the needle exchange legislation now being developed by the SF AIDS Foundation and Prevention Point, San Francisco's needle exchange group. The proposed legislation will amend the section of the California business and professional code that requires a permit to furnish hypodermic needles to pilot needle exchange programs.

Whether Filante endorses such legislation or not, and whether the pharmacists are willing to distribute needles or not, Norma Hotaling, a former Marin outreach and health worker, is determined to get needle exchange going in Marin early next year, by any means necessary. "I have a lot of concerns about addicts. They say they need clean needles. As a counselor I hear people needing clean equipment," says Hotaling, a former prostitute and Injection Drug User (IDU). She is planning a meeting with potential needle exchange volunteers in January.

What is unique about needle exchange is that it represents a distinct shift in dealing with drug abuse, which up until this point in America has been entirely punitive. "Needle exchange represents a philosophy of harm reduction. Instead of saying drug users are fiends incarnate, it says, 'We want to help you take control of your health.' It is a pivotal policy shift," says Joe Guydish, assistant clinical professor at the Institute for Health Policy Studies.

AGREEING TO DISAGREE

The only real opposition at the Marin forum to starting up needle exchange came from Filante and Undersheriff Robert Doyle of the Marin Sheriff's Department. When Mayer asked Doyle if law enforcement would look the other way if needle exchange were instituted—as is the case in San Francisco—Doyle replied, "Probably not. It is not a good idea to ignore laws we don't like." Doyle stated that he had serious reservations about initiating exchange programs, reservations about the danger of attracting IDUs from other counties to Marin, and reservations about possible community opposition to such programs in Marin.

"I do not support needle exchange. I do support a pilot project as part of an overall program" that would include education and drug treatment provisions, stated Filante. He believes supporting needle exchange as a stand-alone program sends a mixed message implying drug use is OK. Filante says, "drug abuse is drug abuse"; i.e., all use is abuse, and that the only way to improve a drug user's quality of life is to get them off drugs and into drug treatment—period.

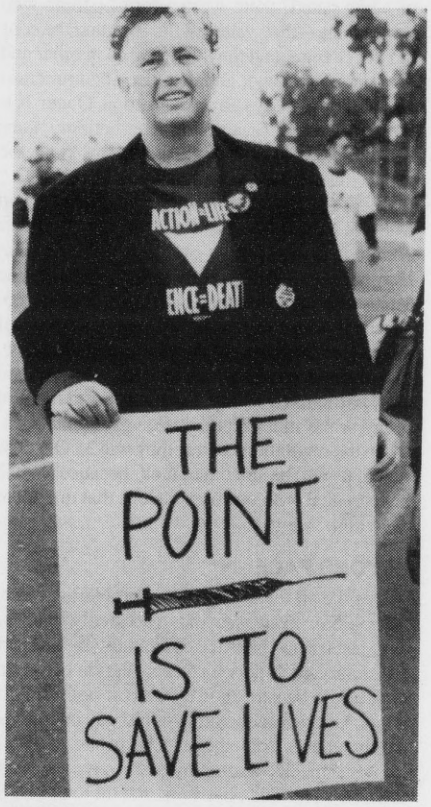

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

ACT UP demonstrates at the home of Sen. Quentin Kopp, who opposes needle exchange.

Tom Fairwell, a Marin AIDS Advisory Commissioner, disagrees. "I am a former intravenous drug user. At the time I was injecting regularly, I was not thinking about drug treatment. And if I had clean needles to use, I would not be HIV-positive. Maybe now I would just be a recovered drug addict. The point being: There are a number of wonderful and creative people out there who use drugs."

Lisa Moore, Prevention Point volunteer and doctoral candidate in the public health department at UC Berkeley, tartly rebutted Doyle's fear of hoards of IDUs invading Marin. She noted that the more exchanges there are, the less likelihood there will be of "commuter" exchangers. Moore also blasted Filanti's contention that traditional drug treatment will help. "A lot of users we see are injecting heroin with coke and speed. You can put them on Methadone for as long as you want, and it won't make a bit of difference to them."

While Doyle implied that the panel was unrealistically supportive of needle exchange, George Clarke, director-coordinator of Prevention Point, pointed to a SF State University poll of 500 city residents in which 70 percent supported needle exchange. Even more telling was the victory of Proposition O, which put 56 percent of San Francisco voters on record as not only supporting needle exchange, but totally deregulating needle supply. Prevention Point did not endorse the initiative. Clarke said, "We thought it was a mad dog libertarian concept." But he and other needle exchange activists had underestimated San Francisco voters who endorsed the program—in a conservative off-year election!

At the Marin forum, Clarke said that by February 1992 Prevention Point will have exchanged over one million needles. Clarke said that Prevention Point reaches about 1,200 individual IDUs each week, about 10 percent of the San Francisco IDU-population, and exchanges approximately 9,000 needles a week. Not only are more IDUs exchanging dirty needles for clean ones, but potentially infected needles are circulating for a shorter period of time. The number of initially clean needles is greater, and more and more IDUs are using Prevention Point. Clarke said when Prevention Point started, if IDUs tried to scam free needles without having one to exchange, he would crack, "What kind of IDU are you that you can't find a used needle?" Now, with the advent of the needle exchange, the scarcity of used needles is increasingly genuine, and used needles have a real economic street value because they can be exchanged for sterile ones.

Currently, some 40 to 50 percent of San Francisco IDU's interviewed by the Urban Health Study research project use Prevention Point for their syringes, up from less than 3 percent when the program started. The Urban Health Study also found that regular users of Prevention Point are three times less likely to share needles than non-users or infrequent users.

Guydish said needle exchange is a necessity to keep IDUs healthy and uninfected—even if they do want drug treatment, because the waiting lists are so long. "There are 1.2 million IDUs in this country and only 10 percent of them are in [drug] treatment at any one time. Some don't want it, but we would need to expand treatment tenfold [to provide treatment for all those that do]. So what do we do about IDUs and syphilis transmission and endocarditis and other diseases [spread by sharing dirty needles] now?"

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"The Purpose is Liberation:"

Barbara Smith Bucks the System

BY VAL C. PHOENIX

"1992 is a crucial time—a time for us as radicals to recommit ourselves to the struggle and know what we're going toward." African American feminist activist and writer Barbara Smith was outlining some of the goals and challenges before radical activists who are taking on the power structure.

Smith was in town for a lecture on "Women of Color 1992: The Challenges of Movement Building" at San Francisco State University on Dec. 3. In a wide-ranging address, the co-founder and editor of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press touched on such hot topics as the Thomas hearings and called for a socialist revolution to overthrow the capitalist system.

Smith defined activism as work that directly confronts the system, an open-ended definition that demands work maintain a link with real-life problems. Giving a nod to the largely academic audience, Smith called for studies that would be applicable to real life, rather than the "intellectual soup cooling" that she sees in much of academia.

For example, Smith said Women's Studies has degenerated into a competition to see who can come up with the most arcane and woolly theory. "Women's Studies by itself won't change anybody's life," she said, especially if the message is not readily understood. Using her own writing as an example, Smith said, "I hope the writing I've done, the writing I will do, will spur people to activism. I have a purpose. That purpose is liberation...The best theory can be applied to liberation."

Rejecting electoral politics, Smith said, "As a socialist, I believe we will never get freedom under capitalism...We are building for a revolution...Ultimately, justice will win out." A major challenge, she said, is to link struggles that are going on concurrently. "Sometimes it's hard to see how our activism for a particular issue fits in with a revolutionary vision," she allowed, citing reproductive rights and anti-racism work.

Smith sees the Thomas hearings as an example of a divide-and-conquer strategy that keeps oppressed groups apart. "What was going on in that situation," said Smith, "was to pit sexism against racism. You were either for a Black man and for the race or for Anita Hill and against the race. That's what the white power structure wanted us to think, but some people saw what was going on."

Smith noted that after *People* featured Thomas and his wife on the cover, the magazine was deluged with negative letters. She questioned the dignity of a Supreme Court Justice appearing on the cover of a trashy magazine, saying, "They're supposed to be above it—above the law perhaps."

Many of Smith's harshest quips were directed at the man she calls "Uncle Thomas." Noting the similarities in her and Thomas' backgrounds, in terms of age, birthplace, upbringing and education, she concluded, "I don't know how he turned out to be such a fool." More seriously, she questioned how someone who benefited from affirmative action programs could turn away to so stridently reject those programs. "He calls himself a self-made man, but he benefited from the movement I worked in 20 years ago."

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

Barbara Smith

In the face of such obstacles, Smith said she sees "signs of women of color on the move." For example, an ad was taken out in the Nov. 17 *New York Times* by African American Women in Defense of Ourselves. Signed by over 1,600 women of African descent, the statement lambasted Thomas, while simultaneously decrying the system that used Thomas to keep Black women in check.

Part of the text reads, "We speak here because we recognize that the media are now portraying the Black community as prepared to tolerate both the dismantling of affirmative action and the evil of sexual harassment in order to have any Black man on the Supreme Court. We want to make clear that the media have ignored or distorted many African American voices. We will not be silenced." Smith said she felt the ad was but a first step in giving voice to African American women.

Smith also cited Revolutionary Sisters of Color (RSC), an autonomous socialist feminist group which she co-founded and which first met in her living room in Albany, New York, after the October 1990 Audre Lorde conference in Boston. She read part of the statement of unity for the group, which includes heterosexism among its targets. Ticking off symptoms of a rising tide of oppression, from violence against women to poverty to racism, Smith concluded, "The deal is going down."

So far, the RSC has confined most of its activities to the East Coast, but Merle Woo, who attended the program, said the group would be expanding its activities locally. An open house in San Francisco on Dec. 7 drew 15 interested women. Woo said a national conference was scheduled for next fall in Washington, D.C.

A question and answer session followed Smith's address. One woman asked what Smith, an out lesbian, thought of San Francisco's lesbian Supervisors. Smith replied that getting elected did not challenge the fundamental tenets of an oppressive system. "I'd like to think the people who did it have a revolutionary agenda." Without that, she said, "You've changed the faces of the people who run the system. The system still exists."

Several campus groups teamed up to sponsor a reception honoring the writer after her appearance. The reception brought together contingents of feminists, Black activists and socialists, sometimes overlapping, sometimes not. *ACHE* editor Skye Ward asked representatives of Radical Women about the inclusion of women of color in socialist groups. Another speaker called for more people of color in leadership roles. When a woman asked how to make resources accessible for all women, Smith replied, "Remember from whence you came. Clarence has forgotten that... Women of color who've had the opportunity to become educated [must] not put ourselves down for that. Where is it written that I'm not supposed to know what's going on? Being educated just means you're able to grasp the system in order to change it."

Smith elaborated for the *SF Bay Times* on the place of lesbian and gay activists in a socialist revolution. She said that lesbians and gay men of color had always been in the forefront of movements for social change, citing civil rights activist Bayard Rustin as an example. For him, she said, "there was no context in which to be out," adding, "Eventually, he came out in the context of the contemporary lesbian and gay movement."

A lively debate occurred after the scheduled program when several African American women sparred with Smith about her allegiance to women of color, rather than Black women. One woman said she was offended by the term women of color because she felt it covered up differences. She said she'd been discriminated against by Asians, for example, and only felt solidarity with African Americans. Working in coalition with other people of color couldn't be done unless the historical wounds were brought up and healed, she suggested. "You need to bring your whole self to the table." Smith, whose Kitchen Table Press published the groundbreaking *Home Girls*, a Black feminist anthology in 1983, said that when she founded Kitchen Table, she thought it was the most forward-looking and politically challenging strategy for it to be for all women of color. "I do believe in the solidarity of women of color," said Smith.

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BY TIM KINGSTON

If you have "end-stage HIV disease"—whatever that is—don't go looking for treatment in Oregon. If Oregon's new health care system is approved by the federal government, Oregonians with "end-stage HIV disease" will receive only "comfort care and hospice." Under the new, limited Oregon Health Plan, AIDS would be treated "just as it would be in any other long-term situation where the end result is death," says Kay Handille, legislative assistant to State Senate President John Kitzhabor, who sponsored the Oregon Health Plan.

The Oregon Health Plan enrages many AIDS activists, children's proponents and women's advocates who may be excluded from various state-paid treatments under the new Plan. While Oregon fails to define exactly what "end-stage HIV disease" is, PWAs in that as-yet-undefined condition will not get the *experimental* HIV treatments or the early-intervention medical care that has kept many PWAs alive and leading productive lives. Critics of the Oregon Plan also charge that many women, especially poor women, and children currently covered by Medicaid may also end up having their coverage taken away if Oregon's governor and other legislators get their way.

To enact the Oregon Plan, state officials need federal waivers from Medicaid. This would release them from responsibility for providing the care that every other state in the Union covers under Medicaid. This is Oregon's attempt to contain spiraling medical costs, by limiting the number of treatments and procedures the state pays for. This cost containment will be the result of prioritizing treatments; that is, simply not funding those treatments the state decides it cannot afford (e.g., severe brain injury, liver transplants for alcoholic cirrhosis, aggressive medical treatment of extremely premature babies, etc.).

On Dec. 3, critics of the Plan formed a coalition that initiated a nationwide phone zap against federal officials currently considering Oregon's request to have federal Medicaid mandates waived. If the state's request is approved by the federal government, Oregon will implement its "prioritized list" of treatments to limit the state's costs for providing medical care. Opponents argue this list is unfair to people suffering from "low priority" conditions. The activists' phone zap also targeted Oregon's governor and state legislators advocating Medicaid waivers.

The problem with the proposal, say critics, is that while the Oregon Plan might cover more people, some treatments that are currently mandated and paid for under Medicaid will not be covered. That leaves some people with what the Plan defines as "terminal AIDS" and other chronic conditions without care. Dave Robinson, a Portland AIDS activist, has christened the scheme the "Oregon Death Plan," and charges, "These people did not volunteer for this. It is a crime against humanity to suggest we have reached a point where we can declare that the lives of aged, blind, disabled, low-income people are expendable."

The Plan grew out of the widespread crises in health care costs that are spiraling out of control across the country, and the fact that 450,000 Oregonians are currently without health care coverage. The Oregon Plan is aimed at extending rationed health care coverage to *all* Oregonians below the federal poverty level. To implement the Plan, a Health Services Commission was appointed which drew up a ranked list of over 700 medical conditions. The list linked medical conditions with treatments that the state will reimburse. The Legislature has since gone through the list, eliminating state funding for the lowest priority procedures.

"At the surface this is a very callous way of deciding care, but these kinds of decisions are being done all the time," notes Mervyn Silverman, president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research. He stresses that such medical rationing is both widespread and covert. "This [Oregon Plan] may bring attention to the crises that something has to be done, but something being done should not be limiting care. A nation with the highest health care dollar spending has a very unequal system. If you can afford it you can get some of the best care in the world. If you can't, you can get the worst care in the world."

Portland AIDS activists have christened the scheme the "Oregon Death Plan," charging, "It is a crime against humanity to suggest we have reached a point where we can declare that the lives of aged, blind, disabled, low-income people are expendable."

Photo by Rink

PROPONENTS: EQUITABLE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

To its advocates, the Plan will expand health care to all Oregonians and be the first real effort to contain skyrocketing medical costs. For the first time, all Oregonians, including the working poor, will be eligible for a uniform standard of care. The Plan also covers more than Medicaid in some respects, by providing dental services and routine preventative screening services such as mammograms, and physical and occupational therapy. According to an official at the Oregon Health Department, the Plan also covers all Food and Drug Administration-approved HIV and opportunistic infection treatments, but it is unclear if experimental *off-label use* of approved drugs is also covered.

Handille denies charges that women and children will lose benefits. She says more women and children will be covered under the new Plan than under Medicaid. "There are a lot of people, working poor—they fall through the cracks"—who will now be covered, says Handille. "They flat out don't get health care. They don't go to get health care till they are in a catastrophic illness." That, of course, means their care is even more expensive than it would have been had those individuals had access to routine preventative care as they will under the new system.

Finally, because the State Legislature approved a finite list of treatments, the costs are finite. The Legislature even approved additional funding to the Plan in the last legislative session because the costs are limitable, says Handille. "This is a good budgetary tool. We would never have been able to get $33 million from the Legislature if we had not been able to show them what they are paying for."

OPPONENTS: INSTITUTIONALIZED MEDICAL DISCRIMINATION

To its detractors, the Oregon Plan is, at best, half a solution and, at worst, an underhanded way to cut back on providing medically necessary treatments to poor people. Others say the Plan does not address structural problems in the profit-driven American health care system. Instead, it is simply reform of a small sector of the medical industry—a reform that adversely affects the poor and medically indigent.

Among AIDS advocates, there is considerable confusion about just what the Plan will mean in terms of providing care to people with HIV and AIDS. Robinson says he has talked with Oregon state officials who say drugs that are "experimental" will not be funded, while those that are "effective" will be. Nor is it clear when treatment for opportunistic infections will cease because of vagueness around the term "end-stage HIV-disease."

"The response in Oregon is not to deal with the systemic problems. Instead they turn to the group of people who are getting the least health care now and say, 'We are going to save money by giving them less care than before,' " charges Maryann O'Sullivan, executive director of Health Access, a California coalition of groups working for affordable health care.

According to the Washington-based Children's Defense Fund, the waivers Oregon wants from Medicaid will allow the state to eliminate Medicaid coverage for pregnant women, caretaker relatives of children, and children not in the custody of the state. The Plan also eliminates, among other things, retroactive eligibility for health care coverage, so that a poor individual who is ill and who received treatment that they had to pay for will not be able to recover those costs.

O'Sullivan asserts Oregon is looking in all the wrong places to save money. She says, "Both the Rand Corporation and [Secretary of Health] Louis Sullivan are saying that 25 percent of the services [people] receive are unnecessary…doctors performing dangerous invasive procedures and lots of tests that don't need to be performed." O'Sullivan argues that cutting such costly procedures will provide more effective cost containment than limiting expensive but medically necessary care to poor people.

Another area O'Sullivan critiques is uncontrolled hi-tech capital expenditures. For example, she says the Bay Area has 70 MRI scanners while in Nova Scotia, Canada, an area with roughly the same population, there are three. She also asserts that contrary to popular belief, the private medical sector is less efficient than the public sector. She states that the *private* health care system spends 15 percent of its total costs on administration, as compared to 3 percent administrative overhead at Medicare and 6 percent overhead at MediCal.

(continued on page 16)

Independent Investigator Rules Castro Sweep Business As Usual

BY MICHELE DERANLEAU

Charges filed against SFPD officers for the sweep of the Castro district after the October 6, 1989 police riot have "disappeared into the ozone," in the words of Eileen Luna, director of the Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC), after an independent hearing officer decided two days after the election to confirm a February OCC finding that the sweep was "proper conduct."

Since the hearing process is confidential, neither the complainants in the case nor the public—including the hundreds of protestors and bystanders who were confined to buildings and sidewalks for up to three hours that night by police—will get an explanation for the decision.

But Gerard Koskovitch, one of the complainants and a prominent critic of the police disciplinary process, says he has an explanation: homophobia. "Under department rules for crowd management, the only way the sweep could have been proper was if the hearing officer, after reviewing the evidence, decided that there was a riot happening," Koskovitch says. "The only way he could think that was if he failed to review the videotapes and relied instead on the outright lies told by officers throughout this whole case, or if he looked at the videotapes and saw a dangerous and violent mob rather than people angered and upset by a police invasion of their neighborhood."

Despite descriptions of surging crowds and bottle throwing in police reports and police testimony in earlier disciplinary hearings, videotapes show protestors and bystanders chanting but decidedly nonviolent as police run amok. Officers on the scene said they decided to sweep the streets after a "second sit-in" at the intersection of Castro and Market, but this is also contradicted by the videotape.

Koskovitch notes that William Terheyden, the hearing officer chosen by the OCC off a list of about 20 local attorneys who have volunteered to review OCC decisions appealed by complainants, is from Littler, Mendelson, Fastiff and Tichy, the firm that represented Target stores when they wanted to screen out homosexual job applicants with personality tests.

"I think if (Terheyden's) straight, white, upper-class neighbors in Burlingame or Belvedere or wherever he's from reacted the same way to a police occupation of their neighborhood, he would have viewed it quite differently," Koskovitch says. "He obviously had no understanding of us, our forms of expression, our love for our neighbors or our love for our neighborhood."

The original hearing officer chosen from the list excused himself from the case when Neil Eisenberg, attorney for Capt. Richard Cairns, one of the officers named in the complaint, contended that a juvenile marijuana possession charge would make him biased against the police.

"And where did he find that sealed juvenile conviction?" Koskovitch asks rhetorically. "Once again, the cops played dirty, and no one held them to the rules."

The sweep case is only one of many complaints initially lodged against officers and the department in the wake of the police riot, but many activists felt it was the most important.

"It's frightening that police can lock people in buildings and conduct a paramilitary operation in a neighborhood, and then have those activities sanctioned by the agencies that are supposed to be protecting the public interest," Koskovitch said. "It's even more disturbing that the entire process takes place in secret, and the reasoning that excuses the misconduct of people on the public payroll remains unknown to us."

OCC director Eileen Luna says that state law requires that personnel matters, including disciplinary complaints, remain confidential. At outgoing Mayor Art Agnos' request, the city attorney's office examined ways to open the process to public inspection last summer, and concluded that the only way to do this was to change the state law, or bargain with the Police Officer's Association to open the process on a case-by-case basis, according to Luna. The POA has traditionally been reluctant to cooperate with investigations.

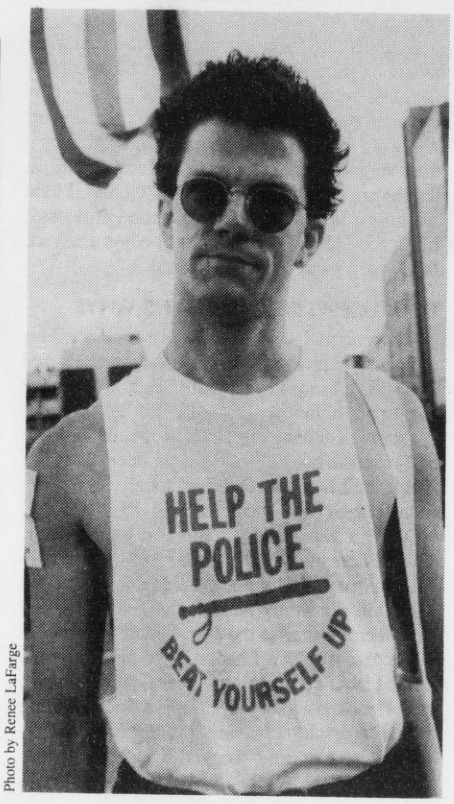

Photo by Renee LaFarge

Koskovitch and other activists who have criticized the disciplinary process may be getting some help from Supervisor Willie Kennedy, who has announced her intention to put a measure on the June ballot that would do away with the OCC and instead establish an independent citizen review board. Although the OCC is a civilian oversight body, it is under the auspices of the Police Commission, and it has been under-staffed, underbudgeted, and under fire from activists who want more effective civilian oversight of the department and the POA, which wants none.

The OCC is still reviewing a case against Dep. Chf. Frank Reed, for altering crowd control orders handed down by then Dep. Chf. John Jordan, the brother of the incoming mayor and then-Chief of Police Frank Jordan, who subsequently forced his brother (John) to retire. The OCC is also reviewing another case against several officers for lying on reports and in testimony.

A civil case filed against the city, incoming mayor and former police chief Frank Jordan, and officers on the scene of the sweep may be the best and last chance for the public to find out what happened that night and why. The nine counts alleged in the case include assault and depriving the plaintiffs of their First Amendment rights, and the charge that there was a conspiracy to do the same.

The case is in discovery now, and moving slowly. Jordan avoided requests for his deposition while running for mayor, and Eisenberg has successfully filed for innumerable delays in the case, in which both he and Cairns are named as defendants.

One of the complainants in the case has died from AIDS in the two years since the ACT UP protest turned bloody at the hands of the police, and since most of the complaints have either been dismissed by the OCC or, as in the brutality case against Cairns, resulted in minimal discipline, critics and activists who have been following the case are unlikely to get satisfaction.

In the sweep case, however, the police review process has come to its conclusion. "We hung in there and carried the case to the end, and this is what happens," Koskovitch says. "Our attorneys conclusively demonstrated that the officers on the scene that night were guilty of gross misconduct under the department's own rules. That the ruling came out this way is testament to the power of police privilege."

"Even if we win the civil case, the money comes from the city," says Brian Bringartner, one of the plaintiffs. "Nothing is going to happen to the officers charged."

"The police officers who fucked us over have been payed out of my pocket for every minute of their involvement in this case," Koskovitch says. "We spent countless hours of our own time and thousands of dollars of our own money and we get no justice. We got queerbashed in the Castro, and the administrative process has just queerbashed us all over again."

CFIDS Patients Win Another Injunction Against Ampligen Manufacturer

Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome patients won two more preliminary court skirmishes on Dec. 2 and 9 against HEM Corp., manufacturer of Ampligen, the *only* drug that has shown significant results in treating people suffering from CFIDS. The precedent-setting lawsuit—brought by a group of 17 CFIDS patients who have dubbed themselves the experimental "White Rats"—demands that HEM Corp. supply the patients with Ampligen until it is approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The "White Rats" were part of a 92-person study sponsored by HEM Corp. to determine the toxicity and efficacy of Ampligen against CFIDS. The plaintiffs charge that HEM Corp. promised them lifetime access to the drug once the protocol was over. But instead, the protocol ended suddenly in April and the participants' supply of the experimental drug was abruptly cut off. So, they sued.

On Dec. 2, Judge Edward Reed Jr., of the Nevada U.S. District Court, ruled that the 15 CFIDS patients suing HEM Corp. be given 400 mg of Ampligen twice a week for 12 months, or until the lawsuit comes to trial, whichever is sooner. "I think it is terrific that the judge ordered the injunction," says Cindy Stratton, one of the plaintiffs. "But it is not complete enough. We were hoping for [Ampligen] three times a week. We were hoping to get it for longer than 12 months." Reed's Dec. 2 decision follows an injunction he granted on Nov. 7 to the two original plaintiffs in the case. [See *SF Bay Times*, "First Round to the White Rats," Nov. 21, 1991.]

The second victory was on Dec. 9 when Judge Reed threw out an HEM Corp. 'motion to stay' which was filed on Dec. 6. That motion would have allowed the company to delay the provision of any Ampligen to plaintiffs until the start of the trial—probably in late 1992. On Dec. 10, Jim Beasley, the attorney representing the "White Rats," filed a motion to hold HEM Corp. in contempt of court for filing the motion to stay. Beasley believes the motion to stay is merely a delaying tactic to avoid complying with the court's order.

Frank Cassas, the HEM Corp. attorney in Reno, says he is "unauthorized to make any comment on the case." Tony Herrling, of Broadgate consultants, a media relations firm hired by HEM Corp., denied that the motion was tactical and asserts the motion was filed for "medical and logistical reasons." He stated that the company was not sure if it had sufficient quantities of the drug on hand, and the 400 mg dose twice a week was higher than some participants had been getting. He believes the company was concerned about a detrimental impact of the drug on the plaintiffs [many of whom had reported massive improvement in their condition while they were on the drug].

Stratton doesn't buy that and says, "Our main concern is that the company will try every stalling tactic that it can think of, which will not benefit them in the long run. It will cost them more in attorneys' fees, and will cost them with the public and FDA in general. I can't figure out what they have to gain. They are also losing valuable information they can gain from us!"

—*Tim Kingston*

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THE WRITE STUFF

BY DAVE FORD

And Now, A Word From Our Sponsor

In his *Beat This* column last issue, my colleague Don Baird advocated "casual drug use," and lambasted the "great American sobriety craze of the '80s." It was, in its way, a brave stand, given governmental "War On Drugs" lies and societal "Just Say No" admonitions. And Don's hilarious "12 steps" of using etiquette lovingly mocked the sometimes silly consequences of casual use.

But as a recovering alcoholic and addict, I cringed at Don's flip attitude toward recovery, and toward the potential dangers of drug use in the lesbian/gay community. When he joked about being a "Casual User-Identified sponsor" who saved someone from "possible Narcotics Anonymous destruction," Don implicitly dismissed the flip-side: NA "sponsors" help newly recovered addicts stay clean—and, therefore, alive.

No one's more annoying than a born-again substance abuser. Some blossom into self-appointed experts on everyone *else's* behavior, health and well-being. That's why I neither advocate nor discourage "casual drug use": it's not my place to tell other people how or what to ingest.

But I do think a few words about substance abuse are in order.

TAKE TWO, AND BALL IN THE MORNING

Gays and lesbians are no strangers to addiction: Whereas 10 percent of the national population are practicing addicts and alcoholics, in the gay male community the figure is 33 percent; for lesbians, it's 20-25 percent, according to the Executive Summary of the Lesbian and Gay Substance Abuse Planning Group. That means that *over one-third* of gay men, and *a fifth to a quarter* of lesbians are practicing addicts and alcoholics.

Moreover, a Dec. 16 *Time* piece offered disturbing teen-drinking statistics. Eight million of the 20.7 million youths in grades 7 through 12 drink alcoholic beverages every week. Of those, 454,000 engage in weekly "binges"—five or more drinks in a brief sitting. College undergrads spend $4.2 million a year on booze, "far more than they spend on textbooks." Alcohol-related incidents include suicide, murder, date rape and family violence—not to mention death by driving under the influence. Says Andrew McGuire, of S.F. General's Trauma Foundation, "Alcohol abuse is the No. 1 health problem of young people in America."

While *Time* didn't specify either way, some of those teenagers are gays and lesbians.

Study after study has shown causal connections between substance abuse and HIV infection in gay men. Hard drugs—speed, cocaine, heroin, downers, Ecstacy—all trash the immune system.

They are also physically addictive: use 'em regularly, and you withdraw when you stop. Sometimes it seems easier to feed the body's need for the poison than to endure that next hangover or bout of dry heaves.

Furthermore, you get blitzed, you mar your judgment. Smoke a joint, do a line, have a drink, fuck that big hot dude: um, was that a condom by the bed or an Xmas balloon? Can't remember. Anyway, who cares? *It felt so good*. I can't count the conversations, with friends and acquaintances, that began with that old lament: "Ohhhh, I kind of *slipped* last night." Right: a condom *sounds* like a good idea. Well, it looks good on a bus ad. But, when push comes to hump...

BECAUSE I *LIKE* TO, *THAT'S* WHY!

Conventional wisdom holds that addicts use for three main reasons: we're genetically predisposed to do so; it numbs life's pains; and, simply, we like to get high.

I started smoking cigarettes at 11, smoking pot at 14 and drinking beer a year later. Is it coincidence I was also entering puberty? My hormone-crazed body was screaming, "HAVE SEX NOW!" I was saying, "But I'm *gay*. I *can't*. They'll *hate* me. *Help*!" True, I was genetically and environmentally designated: alcoholism and addiction run in my family. But getting blasted sure seemed to ease the pain and confusion.

It's also true that I had a *lot* of fun. *I partied hard*. I *liked* getting high. Music sounded better after I smoked a joint. My home life seemed more tolerable, adolescence less prickly in a haze.

But what began as "recreational" quickly became habitual. Not that I saw it that way then—hell, *everyone* partied in college. Everyone partied, *period*: this was the '70s. I thought I was just doing what the culture supported me in doing. In actual fact, I was looking for every pro-drug cultural signifier available (there were plenty, in the '70s) to justify my increasingly inescapable habits.

Perhaps it's just coincidence that during this period, and throughout my twenties, I felt alienated and isolated, a perpetual outsider even in my own little community. Oh, I had friends, went out, did things. But it always felt like there was something fundamentally *wrong* with my life. So much so, in fact, that I simply assumed that this was the condition of humankind. Everyone is vaguely miserable and socially inept. All humans shut out friends who've hurt them. Gay sex is confusing and baffling and terrifying for *all* men.

Right?

Conversely, there were times it felt like everyone had been given the operating instructions to "Life" except me.

SHALL WE FLYER THE AIRPORT NOW?

I stopped drinking and getting high a little over three years ago, when I realized I was using the same way I had in high school—and that it wasn't working any more. I didn't get drunk; I got miserable. I didn't get high; I got psychotic. I was 31, but felt—and often acted—14.

It was time to stop—but I couldn't. I'd already tried once, and had failed: after eight months off everything, I'd decided I'd "proved" I wasn't an addict. So I had a "casual" beer—or six. That led to a crazy year-long run, during which I lost a job I coveted, a relationship I cared about, and what little integrity, dignity and self-esteem I had left.

Once clean, however, I found support from other sober alcoholics, and my life changed—mostly for the better. There were no "cults," no arcane rituals, no membership rites, no demands. These people weren't "Moonies." They were just drunks and druggies who, like me, wanted to stay clean. They did that by talking about their lives and discovering a self-defined sense of spirituality.

At first, I became a born-again annoyance. But I was detoxing from years of use: my fucking brain was pickled. When the fog cleared a year or so later, I settled down and began to live my life anew, along with those other sober folks.

GOV'T TO CITIZENS: FUCK YOU! HAHAHA!

Though it may seem paradoxical, I side with Don in decrying the notion of a national "sobriety craze": I'm suspicious of anything sponsored by the government and breathlessly reported by the mass media. Just as I bristle when mainstream culture claims gay ideas, icons and ideals as its own, so do I feel irked when something that's saved my life—sobriety—is used by the ruling elite to bludgeon us into submission.

Or at least that's how it *appears*: in fact, it's empty rhetoric. As Don pointed out, cocaine addicts implicitly support "the buying of arms or the perpetuation of racial oppression." It's not exactly news that our government is tied up in the worldwide drug economy.

As with AIDS, the U.S. government actually does very little about "the drug menace." Why? Because the ruling elite needs to keep ordinary citizens soporific—whether by addiction to television or to Chinese heroin. Otherwise, it can't sell us hit-movie lies like the Persian Gulf "war." Anyway, it's a pervasive (if statistically incorrect) notion, that, like AIDS, the "drug epidemic"—epitomized by crack addiction—afflicts "inner city dwellers": in other words, *them*. The "others." The *last* people the Bush Administration wants empowered.

Furthermore, the capitalist system depends on consumer spending to remain healthy. But leisure-culture vendors have to convince us that unnecessary items are necessary. So their pitchpeople—advertisers—systematically blast our sense of self-esteem, then offer their product as a panacea. Want that hunk? Drive this car. Want those bikini-sporting babes to sit on your face? Drink this beer. Wanna be cool? Smoke this cigarette.

And they're good at what they do: a recent study showed that 91 percent of the 6-year-olds in a 229-child study were able to identify the Camel cigarette "Old Joe" advertising figure. That's as many 6-year-olds as could identify Mickey Mouse.

Point being that the government has no vested interest in changing the system of cultural addiction, or the scourge of drug addiction. Not surprisingly, however, some politicians bleat the sobriety party line, mainly to appeal to the nation's confused (if perpetual) puritan streak—and, bottom line, to get (re)elected.

Now, I was no different from most using addicts: I was (and am) iconoclastic, self-willed, untrusting, cynical. I knew the government was lying to me. So my response to the "sobriety craze" was simple: I used as much as possible!

Which is why it took years for a big lesson to penetrate my pea-brain: I don't have to self-destruct just because I'm angry at the government (or my parents, or my lover, or the bus driver, etc.). Being sober helps me operate in this world with all pistons firing, all the time. It's not always pleasant: when I hurt, I *hurt*. But I do it unmedicated. And I know I'll be much more effective battling that government—or whatever—if I'm clear of eye and mind.

HUMAN LEAGUE: A HOME OF MY OWN

If I care today about whether fellow gays and lesbians are abusing substances, it's less that I've found a "right way" to live than that I'm now genuinely concerned about what happens to the people around me. Gays and lesbians endure repulsive abuses—from the government, from our families, from fellow citizens. It pains me, therefore, to watch at least a piece of my community smoke, snort, shoot—and fuck—itself to death.

Not that I'm a saint: I'm not. Some days I'm no less mean-spirited, irresponsible and manipulative than I've been at any other point in my life. Other days I'm equally as loving and giving as, in one way or the other, I've always been.

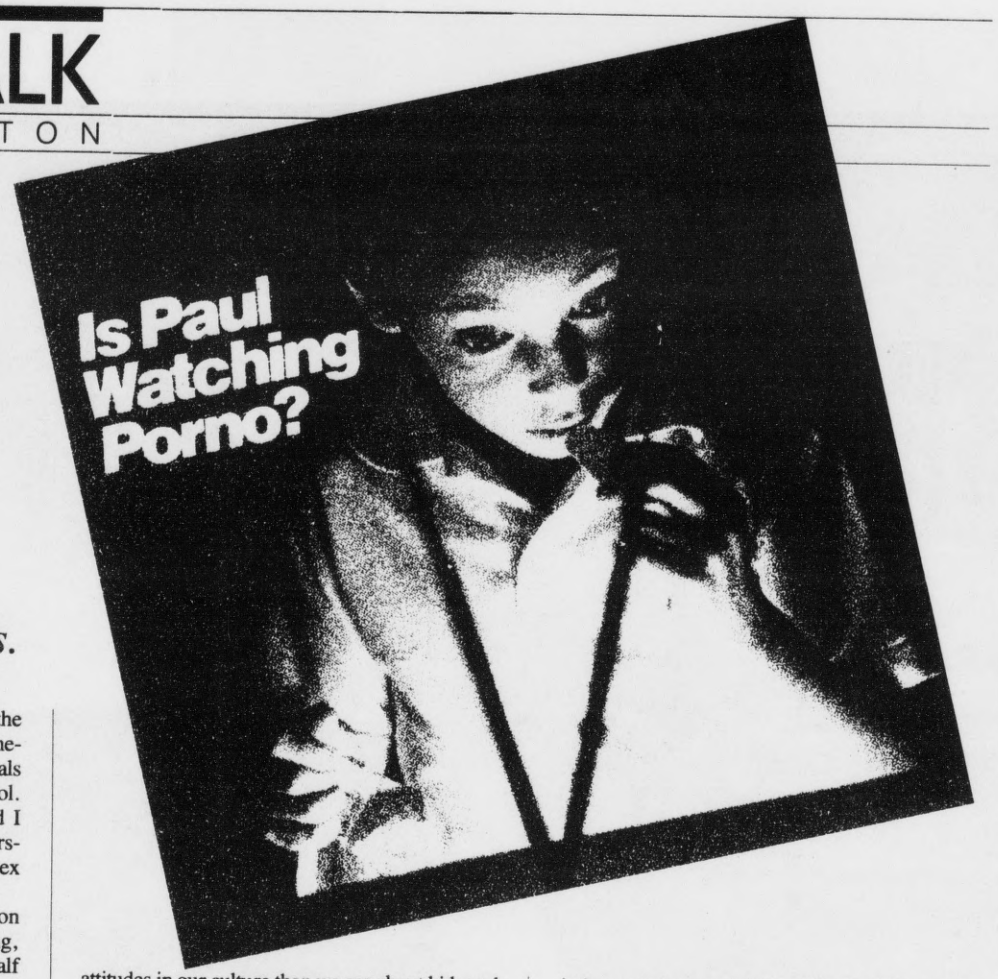
And that's the point: being an alcoholic who chooses sobriety each day just means I get to be human. No more, no less. Being sober makes me no better than anyone else—or worse. It means I take my place in the world, do my job, try to love my friends and let them love me, do a couple of nice things for other people each day or so, apologize for my mistakes. And I do that without removing myself from the world, even for a little "vacation."

There's not a lot of mystery to it—but there's a whole lot of magic.

CROSSTALK

BY BO HUSTON

Just Say YES



I was exposed to the most comprehensive sex education they had... and I still ended up getting sucked off in a car by some guy in his 30s.

It's one of those nights when I'm flipping the dial. No—that's an archaic reference, something from childhood. We don't really flip dials anymore; we press buttons on the remote control. If I were an alien from another planet—and I assure you, I am not—I would come to understand, from watching American television, that sex is just plain bad.

The Kennedy rape case is being excerpted on CNN. There are few images more compelling, and which more clearly epitomize this second half of the 20th century, than that of the nameless defendant on TV, a big round gray spot covering her face, framed by the tasteful pearls and the hairdo. The most famous unidentified person in history! Then there's Willie himself, biting his lip and looking away as the attorneys and witnesses discuss how hard his dick was at any given moment. The judge is rather cranky and overtired as she hears endless testimony about the *meaning* of torn bras and stained panties. And that the Kennedys have such a lovely home down in West Palm Beach.

A crucial discussion lately on television has been about teenagers, sex and condoms. Locally, KGO had a reasonably informative hour-long broadcast which featured a panel discussion, and Phil Donahue also had a program devoted to the controversy. There seem to be a few major points that surface repeatedly. On the side of making condoms available in schools, the issue is fairly clear-cut; we are in the midst of the most significant and mysterious epidemic of this century, adolescents are the current and next waves within the epidemic, and by making condoms, and information about condoms, available, we can slow the spread of HIV, quite obviously save lives. The statistics are *with* the pro-condom folks.

Those against providing condoms and resources to kids in school have a much more complicated reasoning. A kind of a smokescreen issue for them is that condoms do not work—the failure rates are wildly and inconsistently estimated—and so giving condoms to kids creates a false sense of security.

The real objection to making condoms available in the schools, though, is the belief that by doing so we are encouraging sex. Encouraging sex is, apparently, a bad idea. Just Say No to sex. "Whatever happened to abstinence?" Art Croney from the Committee on Moral Concerns asks the KGO audience. "Whatever happened to good values—restraint and self-control?" wonders Rev. Michael Faulkner from the Calvary Baptist Church on Donahue's show. And a pinch-faced audience member grabs Phil's big old microphone and demands: "What is God going to say to all of us on Judgment Day?"

Now, calm down everyone. Once again, AIDS shows itself as not only a disease syndrome, but a complex, pervasive phenomenon; AIDS transcends its context, and illuminates the larger context. Obviously, we are learning so much more about the conflicting and confused sexual attitudes in our culture than we are about kids and sex. The practical concerns of making condoms available in the public schools have become sensationalized, out of control. No one is suggesting that there will be a person stationed at every high school entrance handing rubbers to students. Condoms are not going to be mandatory. They are going to be a resource.

In New York City, where the condom distribution plan was just recently begun, condoms and information on how to use them are dealt with in the health classes and through school counselors. Here in San Francisco, according to Board of Education member Tom Ammiano, exactly how kids will receive the condoms and information is still being worked out. "As it stands now," Ammiano told me, "you can get them at the one high school clinic we have, which is Balboa. A committee is working on how they will be made available to the kids. I tend to favor the idea of peer educators. So kids will be trained and then they can talk to other kids."

Ammiano continued, "I also like the idea of dispensers in the bathrooms. Along with getting the condom, you get education about safe sex and AIDS. The abstinence stuff is kind of a scam. It's been used as a political tool. We just want to acknowledge the fact that there are sexually active young people, and be helpful to them. We also already have good gay and lesbian programs, so all different kinds of sexual experience can be addressed."

One barrier to dealing at all with condoms is that our society has an absolute fascination with and revulsion toward penises. A general lack of understanding about penises. An erect dick is the last taboo. It is titillating and terrifying for anyone—parent, teacher or kid—to envision or explain putting on a condom, because then we are necessarily referring to an aroused penis and all that may imply. Maybe it's your son's aroused penis, for gosh sake. You didn't even know your son's penis got aroused.

One of Phil's callers: "I raised my kids to be moral and to abstain from sex before marriage. I would think that AIDS would scare them enough that they wouldn't have sex before marriage." And Magic Johnson, in his interview with Connie Chung the other night, went on quite a bit about the immorality of his having slept with a lot of women during his bachelor days.

Hey, am I missing something? Either I am in a kind of monumental denial which my therapist has yet to point out to me, or there is an insidious judgment on sex and desire slithering through the American consciousness. I do not think sex is bad. I do not regret my sexuality or the sexual experiences I have had—*even though* I ended up HIV-positive.

In his interview with Chung, Magic declared: "My message to kids is—no sex is the safest sex." But that's a very skewed logic. No sex, in fact, is no sex. It's a denial of sex, a rejection of sex. To abstain from sex may be the most certain way not to get infected with HIV—assuming you don't engage in any other high-risk behavior—but abstinence has its own unhealthy consequences. If you abstain from sex, you won't learn about sex. You won't understand it. You will relate to sex as something foreign and mysterious. In the name of sex education, we're instructing kids to suppress and deny their sexuality, to be afraid of it.

Someone on one of these talk shows said: "Twenty years of sex education has failed!" Well, I was in the first generation of expanded sex education in the public schools in my community. It did not fail at all. It was simply limited by the culture's inability to communicate about sex.

My fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Goldstein, went running out of the room in tears after she showed us a drawing of a penis. Sex education in American schools has focused on fallopian tubes, spermatozoa, eggs and testicles. The main point of junior high sex ed was: "Now is a time when your bodies are changing." Huh?

The curriculum did not implicitly acknowledge, and certainly did not embrace, the sexuality of the students—whether they were sexually active or not. I was exposed to the most comprehensive sex education they had up until that time—and I still ended up getting sucked off in a car by some guy in his 30s, not knowing if it was okay or not, if I liked it or not, if I should like it or not. My school, my home and my culture generally did not engage with me about myself as a sexual person, about confusion I might have, or desire, or experience.

I did use condoms when I was in high school. (Except then they were just called rubbers.) In those days, the purpose of a condom was to avoid pregnancy. I had this girlfriend, Heidi, who was three or four inches taller than I. She was also very smart, well informed; she cared about herself. She didn't want to get pregnant, and she insisted I use a condom. She used all this foamy stuff, too. So, we fucked and neither of us ended up parents. Or sick.

Part of my frustration with the dialogue and debate about teenagers and sex is that we're talking about young people, not with them. My survey of all these TV shows forces me to believe that the culture is obsessed with protecting children, but does not respect or like them. Well, I like kids. I think kids have generally healthy instincts toward protecting themselves, toward survival and freedom. Younger people are more vulnerable, less experienced, and offering guidance is the responsibility of the society.

But kids' insight into their own lives is a million times more relevant than adults'. Kids don't need a party line, any more than adults do. They can absorb all kinds of opinions and conflicting values, and find their own.

One of Phil's guests was Rev. Cecil Murray of the First African-Methodist-Episcopal Church in

(continued on page 17)

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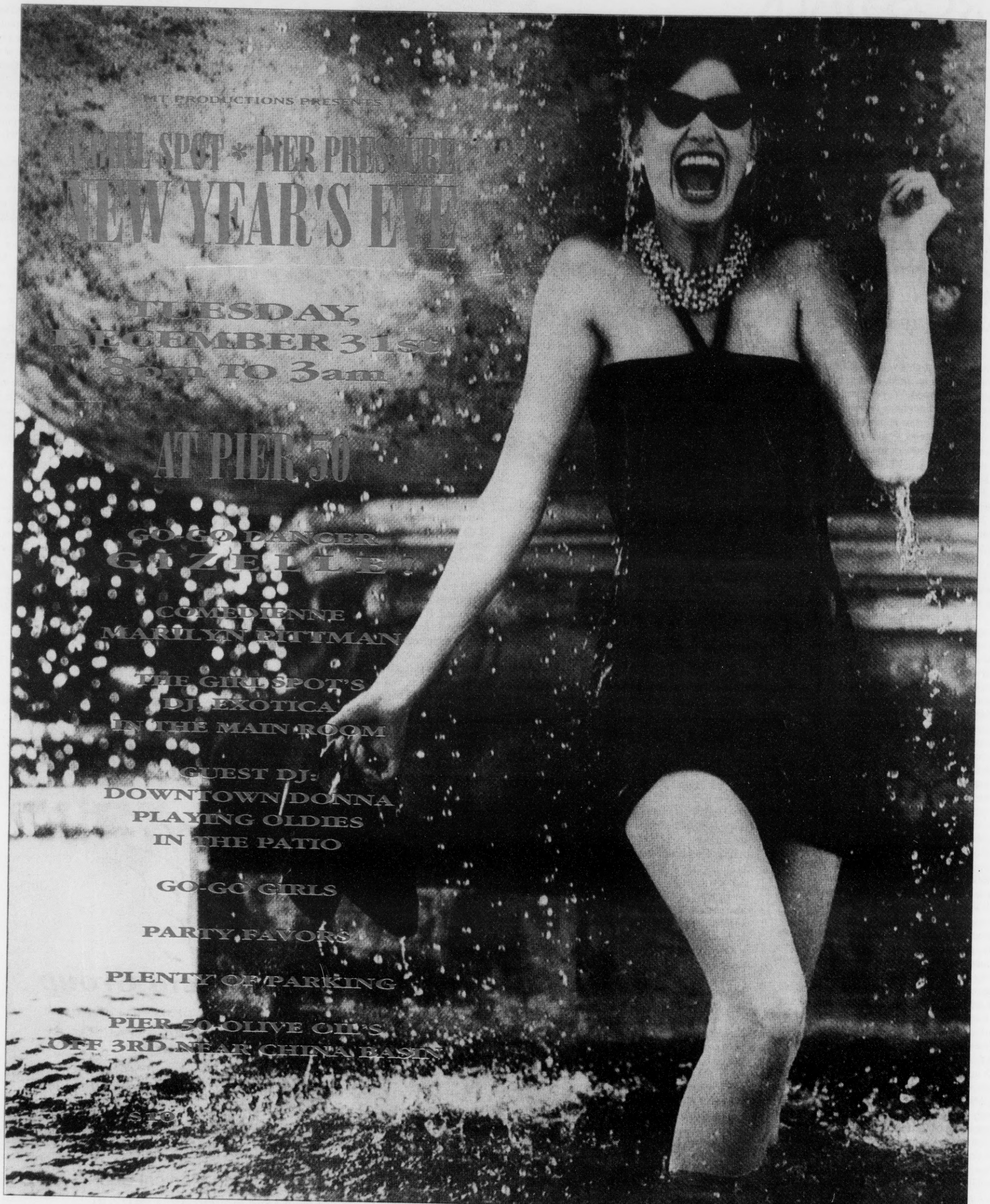
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Pat's Final Curtain: A REMEMBRANCE OF CHRISTMAS PAST

By Terry Baum

This fall, I've been thinking a lot about Pat Bond, who was my very close friend. For those of you who don't know, she was a lesbian actress, writer and comedienne. Her acerbic wit and searing honesty in the movie *Word Is Out* first brought her fame. She toured the country with one-woman shows on Gertrude Stein and Lorena Hickock (Eleanor Roosevelt's lover). For many gay people, Pat was their first exposure to gay theater. Anyone who saw her onstage in her prime—and there are thousands of us queers who did—will never forget the experience. As she got older and frailer, Pat no longer had the energy to tour or perform. In October last year, she became very sick. This is the story of her dying.

Pat always had a Christmas Eve party. That was the *one* event that she always had at her house—the *only* one, in the last four or five years. It was a very big deal to her. If you were any kind of friend, you were *required* to attend this party. The thought that she might not have one because she was in the hospital distressed her. So I promised her a Christmas Eve party in her room, and invited about ten of her friends to come.

Pat moved from a rehabilitation hospital into a nursing home on Dec. 19, 1990. As a going-away present, the staff of the hospital gave her a T-shirt on which they all wrote how much they'd enjoyed her stay and how much they would miss her.

Pat was clearly letting go. On Dec. 21, Gail, Pat's ex-lover, spent a whole night sitting up with her, expecting her to die. But she didn't. Gail said the nurses had been very sweet, had brought in a reclining chair for her so she could sleep a little. On Dec. 22, Pat got a new bed, a weird air mattress with little pellets being blown around. The nurses told me that this was a very wonderful mattress, that people needed less morphine on it because there was essentially no pressure on their bodies and that they just relaxed and died faster.

On Dec. 23, Pat's friend Donald visited. He told me that she was totally out of it for the entire time, didn't say a word. But when he got up to say goodbye, she suddenly opened her eyes and said sharply, "You're coming to my party, aren't you?" He assured her he was.

On Christmas Eve, I got a call about 11 am from the nursing home that she was going fast. I jumped in Pat's car, which I was using while she was sick. The traffic was terrible. I couldn't believe I would end up in a traffic jam at the moment of Pat's death, but that's what seemed to be happening. Finally, the traffic jam unknotted itself, and I zipped along, thinking of all the times I had driven to Marin to see her since she'd been diagnosed with cancer.

I finally got to the nursing home. Gail, myself, and another friend named Little Sun pulled in to the parking lot at the *exact* same moment. The three of us were the main caregivers. I thought of us as a tripod. You need at least three supports to hold something up, I had realized at some point in Pat's illness. It was very strange that we arrived at the same moment, because we were coming from three different places—San Francisco, Marin and Oakland—and it turned out the nurses hadn't even called Little Sun. She was just coming early for the hell of it.

We rushed into Pat's room. She seemed unconscious and was breathing in a very labored, rasping way. Very noisy. I panicked and ran to the nurse and pleaded, "Can you give her some oxygen?" My only thought was, "She's having trouble breathing, let's help her!" The nurse said to me, very gently, "I think oxygen would make *you* feel better, dear, but I don't think it would help Miss Bond at this point." I will always be grateful to that nurse. I had written a play about the cruelty of extending a life that was ending. I had performed that play countless times. But when I was actually confronted with the situation, my automatic impulse was to eke out whatever seconds were left, to try to turn back the river.

I returned to Pat's room. The three of us stood around her bed, holding hands. We decided to sing Christmas carols. After all, it *was* Christmas Eve, and Pat loved carols. We started very tentatively. It just so happened we all had good voices, and they blended beautifully. Our singing got stronger. I harmonized. The sound was really lovely. We went through all the carols we knew. When we ran out of carols, we started on folk songs. We made a joyful noise. Gail and Little Sun and I had talked endlessly on the phone with each other, we'd conferred with doctors together, but we had never sung together until that moment. Who would have thought our three voices would make such a wonderful sound?

As we sang, Pat's breath came at longer and longer intervals. We kept singing. Her breath wouldn't come for 30 seconds. We kept singing. "Michael Row the Boat Ashore" has a lot of verses, and when you run through those, it's easy to make up your own. A great song for an occasion like this. At some points, it would seem like Pat had stopped breathing, but then a labored gasp would come again. We kept singing. We kept singing and singing, and finally there were no more breaths, and we kept singing. We sang for a long time after what turned out to be the last breath.

Then we were quiet. Then we talked. I don't remember what about. I think we felt totally at peace at that moment; we didn't feel grief or sadness then. It had been so perfect for the three of us to sing her across the bridge from life to death. It was a gift. The months of her dying had been a gift she had given to us. After several bitter, depressed years, Pat had at last become open and loving.

After about 45 quiet minutes, the guests for the party started arriving, with little presents and food. Pat's last Christmas Eve party. As Donald pointed out, Pat had always had a great sense of timing. Charlotte had brought champagne. She poured everyone a glass and we stood around the bed and toasted Patricia Bond, lesbian actress and playwright and "girl orthodontist," as it said on her very unbusinesslike business cards. We all felt that she was there, hovering over us. We cried and talked and laughed about this amazing cantankerous woman who had touched us all so deeply. We exchanged the presents we had brought, traded them around so everyone got something they liked. Then we all, except Gail, said goodbye to each other and to Pat's spirit, and we left to go our separate ways. Gail remained with the frail, crippled body that Pat had inhabited for this incarnation, until the people from the mortuary came to take it away.

The next day was Christmas. I had been planning to read Pat Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory*, which she loved dearly. I wanted to still do it, feeling that Pat was very much around. Donald, his lover, Tom, and Little Sun and I agreed to meet at the Denny's in San Rafael that was Pat's home away from home, to read the story out loud together. When we arrived, this Denny's was closed for Christmas. So we parked in the disabled space, which was where Pat always parked, and sat in the car and read the story aloud to each other.

It was a good thing that Denny's hadn't been open. The other customers would have thought it a bit weird that four people were sitting in a booth sobbing on Christmas Day. Capote's story was about the astounding capacity of the most ordinary-seeming people for joy and love, despite terrible obstacles. It was a fitting memorial to Pat.

I always wanted to have a testimonial dinner for Pat, because I knew there was so much love out there in the community for her—love that was not expressed once she stopped performing. The gay community needs to honor its elders—something we haven't been good at. Pat died before she could have that testimonial, which I greatly regret.

In Pat's memory, the Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and the Pat Bond Committee is announcing the Pat Bond Memorial Old Dyke Award, to go to three lesbians over 60 who have not been sufficently honored by their community. We are eagerly seeking nominations, so if you know (or are) an incredible old dyke, please call G.L.O.E. at 626-7000, and ask that a nomination form be sent to you. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 15. The Award Ceremony will be held in May. There are so many amazing older women in our community. This is an opportunity to tell three of them how much we love them while they're still around to hear us.

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AIDS TREATMENT NEWS

BY JOHN S. JAMES

Endocrine Complications In HIV Progression

BY DENNY SMITH

Certain disturbances of the endocrine system may represent a new marker for HIV progression, as well as a treatable cause of some AIDS-related debilities.

The endocrine system is a complex of glands and their hormone messengers which regulate the body's metabolism. This system interacts closely with the nervous system; both serve as information pathways, and they share some common mechanisms. The endocrine system maintains everyday internal functions, and is primed as well to deal with external stresses, whether they be traumatic or gradual. Consequently, endocrine activities are involved in any chronic disease process, like HIV infection, as well as episodes of acute illness, such as AIDS-related opportunistic infections.

Several recent reports describe how HIV might affect, or be affected by, the endocrine system. Endocrine problems can also be consequences of opportunistic diseases like CMV, PCP or Kaposi's sarcoma, and of some drugs used in AIDS care, like pentamidine or ketoconazole.

The signs of endocrine disorders, depending on which gland is affected, can include fevers, low blood pressure and blood sugar, decreased libido, electrolyte imbalances and prolonged recovery from acute illnesses. Unfortunately, these symptoms are not very specific, and are commonly attributed to a variety of causes. An experienced HIV clinician will be able to identify drug and disease-specific symptoms; then follow questions of whether an endocrine dysfunction can be diagnosed or corrected.

If endocrine imbalances are contributing to symptoms, the results could be significant. For example, one report from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York suggested that "failure to thrive" in children with HIV may be due to problems with thyroid regulation. Thyroid problems are commonly treated in non-HIV infected people with thyroid hormone supplements.

EXAMPLE: DHEA

At the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, a phase I study of DHEA (dehydroepiandrosterone) in 13 patients showed some dose-dependent immune function improvement and no toxicities. A modest increase in T4 cells was seen in the five patients who were given more than 750 mg daily.

A more recent report, from the San Francisco Men's Health Study, describes an association between HIV progression and decreased levels of DHEA. This steroidal hormone is derived from cholesterol and contributes to the synthesis of testosterone. We asked the primary author of the new report, Mark Jacobson, M.D., if supplements of DHEA could correct the deficiency or even be directly useful against HIV progression.

Dr. Jacobson said this study showed only that low DHEA levels preceded progression to AIDS in HIV-infected men with T4 helper cell counts below 500. He feels that further interpretation is speculative: perhaps low DHEA levels reflect HIV-induced damage to the adrenal glands, and so only represent a marker for HIV progression; or perhaps, before its levels are depleted, DHEA actually does inhibit HIV.

Dr. Jacobson is currently looking for more conclusions from another clinical study he conducted in which participants were given DHEA; he does not think there is now a solid basis for people with HIV to spend money and risk side effects trying it on their own. He does think that more intensive studies are warranted, including studies of how DHEA, which is an androgenic hormone, affects women with HIV. DHEA levels are naturally higher in men than in women.

Some protective effect on the part of DHEA in HIV infection would not be inconsistent with other activity already connected to this hormone.

As Dr. Jacobson's report noted, DHEA has been associated with in vitro inhibition of viral expression, including that of HIV; it is also associated with a decreased risk of cancer and heart disease. His report concludes by noting that DHEA and its sulfate derivative, DHEA-S, have been administered orally in other clinical situations for months or years at doses up to 1600 mg a day, with no serious side effects—leading to the suggestion that DHEA be investigated as a potential therapy in HIV infection.

EXAMPLE: CORTISOL

Probably the most common endocrine dysfunction documented in HIV infection is insufficient adrenal production of the hormone cortisol. Ordinarily, cortisol is one of the most important of the many endocrine secretions, and a number of studies have documented a blunted response to cortisol stimulation in people with HIV. During episodes of acute illness, such as moderate to severe bouts of Pneumocystis pneumonia, corticosteroids are often administered to help the body cope with the extreme stress.

As with DHEA, the implications of adrenal insufficiency might seem to extend to all people with HIV, symptomatic or not. Some published reports lend weight to that idea, others appear to downplay it. Most conclude that while a number of hormones are slightly imbalanced even in early HIV infection, they don't ordinarily present clinical symptoms that warrant replacement therapy. Every researcher or clinician we spoke to said that the whole issue requires more attention, and that it would be premature to begin hormone replacement therapy in HIV infection, except when an opportunistic infection like CMV is causing identifiable symptoms.

INTERVIEW WITH EDWARD BIGLIERI, MD

For additional information we interviewed Edward Biglieri, M.D., a Professor of Medicine at San Francisco General Hospital who has long studied adrenal insufficiency. It may help the reader to know that cortisol production, while associated with the adrenal glands, is actually generated by a series of messages which are passed along a circuit from the hypothalamus through the pituitary to the adrenals.

(AIDS Treatment News) So many of the body's systems are well-known to be affected by HIV, now the endocrine system as well?

(Biglieri) The endocrine system is clearly involved with AIDS, but there is no clear and uniform disturbance that we've identified. Pituitary problems and thyroid abnormalities are common in the general population anyway, so it can be hard to link these conclusively to an HIV infection. The literature gives the impression that it's sporadic at most. We have focused on the adrenal gland because it seems to be implicated in HIV more than the others. We followed adrenal function in over one hundred patients.

How would the adrenal glands be expected to function in regard to AIDS?

The adrenals release stress hormones during an illness or injury, to help regulate blood pressure, blood sugar, etc. We were first intrigued when we saw certain features in patients on PCP therapy that resembled adrenal insufficiency, such as low blood pressure and elevated potassium levels. Of course, they were also on a drug, pentamidine, that can produce those effects through the kidneys. So we had to ask ourselves, is it the disease, or the therapy, or something else? We monitored people right after an acute illness episode by giving them an ACTH test. ACTH is the normal regulator of cortisol production. We found that 25 percent of these patients didn't respond normally when given ACTH. Their pituitary was not sending sufficient impulses to the adrenal gland to sustain a normal response. Also, the hypothalamus sends an ACTH releasing factor to tell the pituitary, in turn, to stimulate ACTH and the adrenals. A defect in the pituitary was demonstrated when the releasing factor failed to increase ACTH or the adrenal.

Is this a direct result of HIV infection, or something secondary?

It seems as though one of manifestations of HIV generally can be this insufficient hormonal production. Perhaps one out of four people with AIDS will experience this insufficiency. When these people are diagnosed with something serious like PCP, we can give them what we call "stress doses" of steroids, to facilitate their response to the primary treatment.

Is the pituitary implicated in other endocrine problems in AIDS?

I'm not sure there's convincing evidence of that. Sometimes other hormones are low, including testosterone. But I haven't seen studies of these situations involving 100 or more patients like ours. The pituitary obviously could be involved; I haven't seen compelling evidence of it.

But it would make physiological sense?

Yes; in any event, it appears that 25 percent of those experiencing AIDS-related illnesses exhibit an adrenal insufficiency. But you don't have the luxury of testing someone for adrenal insufficiency when they are in respiratory distress. So we can presumptively give stress doses of steroids for three or four days. This has helped correct some of the metabolic abnormalities seen at that time.

(continued on page 32)

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Letters...

(continued from page 3)

major U.S. cities support needle exchange programs in their communities (New Haven, Conn., Portland, Ore., Seattle, Wash., Tacoma, Wash., Honolulu, Hawaii, and Boulder, Colo.).

In addition to decreasing the spread of HIV infection, establishing a needle exchange program can connect injection drug users with existing systems that can provide AIDS education, HIV antibody testing, drug treatment referrals and medical services.

We urge you to evaluate the possibility of implementing such a program in San Francisco as soon as possible. We certainly would do everything we could to support you in this endeavor.

Donald I. Abrams, M.D.
Chair, Community Consortium
Leonard A. Simpson, M.D.
Chair, Social Policy and Action Committee
Carol Brosgart, M.D.
Chair, Scientific Advisory Committee

Time to Re-Register

In recent months many people in our community were persuaded to register Republican in order to help our "friend" John Seymour, appointed to the Senate by our "friend" Pete Wilson, defeat William Dannemeyer in next year's Republican Senate primary. Since that time Seymour and Wilson have shown their true homophobic colors and proven the folly of this strategy. It is now clear that the Republicans are more influenced by the views of the Ku Klux Klan and the Traditional Values Coalition than by our needs and interests.

Meanwhile, the combined effects of the defeat of Art Agnos, term limits, and newly reapportioned legislative districts have created a power vacuum in the San Francisco Democratic Party. Agnos is now history and the Burton-Brown-Pelosi axis is on the verge of collapse. Our "friends" in the Democratic establishment, who have for so long taken our votes for granted while doing everything they can to prevent our community from receiving our share of political power, can at last be driven from office.

The reapportioned 13th Assembly district offers an ideal opportunity for the lesbian and gay community to replace Willie Brown with one of our own. Brown, through his underhanded and unethical tactics, has more than anyone else brought disgrace upon the California Legislature and given the homophobic Republicans their best opportunity in years to take over the Legislature. He has already announced his candidacy for re-election—in 1996!

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

Billy Bragg, polit-rocker extraordinaire, dives into the arms of his adoring fans shortly before jamming on Dee-Lite's "Groove is in the Heart"—instead of singing the "International" at his Dec. 12 concert. The concert brought in over $2,000 for Prevention Point needle exchange.

Not only is he defying the voter-imposed term limits, he is clearly taking for granted his re-elections in 1992 and 1994. This arrogance must be stopped! If we don't defeat Brown in the Democratic primary, he will again become an issue in the fall campaign and his presence will enhance the homophobic Republicans' chances of winning control of the Legislature. If Brown is re-elected and the Republicans take over, he will be a has-been member of the Democratic minority in a Republican-controlled Assembly and he will have about as much influence in Sacramento as Art Agnos will have in San Francisco. If we defeat him, we will send a message to Democrats across the nation that they can no longer count on us to vote for their political hacks in every election.

Now is the time for all those who have mistakenly registered Republican to re-register as Democrats. Independents would also be wise to register Democratic. The only effect of registering Independent is to disenfranchise oneself in primary elections. Those who remain in the Republican party for next year's primary will have the opportunity to choose between Seymour and Dannemeyer for the Senate and George Bush, Pat Buchanan and David Duke for President. Democrats will choose from a far more attractive selection of candidates for the Senate and Presidency as well as having the chance to elect a gay or lesbian assemblyperson in a district where we could have a majority of votes in the Democratic primary. Lesbians and gays who bypass this critical primary will be further empowering the Burton-Brown machine. Instead of being used again by the machine, we can seize our fair share of power in the majority party in San Francisco.

There may come a time when it will be to our advantage to register with the Republican Party or another party to maximize our influence, but for 1992 it is clear that it is in our interest to put an end to the petty bickering that has characterized our community in recent months and unite behind a strong consensus candidate for the good of our community and of San Francisco.

Roger Ritland
San Francisco

What's Up, Ray?

An open letter to Ray Chalker, owner of Rawhide II

I must say that I had heard that there had been a few "odd" incidents at the Rawhide II within the past few weeks. Scattered "tiffs" between you or your bartenders and regular patrons of the bar. One woman banned, and told to leave for not checking her coat. Another woman told to leave the bar (while she was dancing), for not buying a drink. Another woman had been clearly made unwelcome at the bar for some unknown reason. I had also heard that the cold water had been turned off in the restrooms to stop people from the practice of drinking from the tap. I guess that $1.50 per glass of tap water makes a real difference in the bar totals at the end of the night.

Last night, I saw for myself something that I had never before seen in all of my days of Country Western dancing at gay bars across the country. One of your DJs actually came out on the dance floor and stopped a select few couples from dancing. This was preceded by an announcement over the PA, after a song had begun, that the West Coast Swing is not done at the Rawhide. Since when? People have been West Coast Swinging at the Rawhide II for as long as I can remember. There have even been West Coast Swing lessons given at the Rawhide II by one of your most respected regular customers. What's up, Ray?

If you aren't making enough money in alcohol sales, get some decent non-alcoholic beverages or charge a cover for dancing. Give people a ticket that they could refund for a drink of some sort. If you don't want women in your bar, put up a sign—you do reserve the right to refuse service, don't you? If you don't want people doing the California State dance in your bar, put up a sign.

I highly doubt that members of the San Francisco gay and lesbian community have forgotten that the Rawhide II opened its doors to the film crew of the controversial Michael Douglas film, *Basic Instincts*. Isn't it just a bit ironic that the two-step scene in a film portraying a lesbian as a murderess was shot in a gay bar with real (non-murderous) lesbians dancing with gay men. Even though the picketing stopped, and patrons of the Rawhide II seemingly decided to "Shut-up-and-dance," questions remain. Why did you close the bar for regular business to let the film crew in, Ray? And how do you explain these aforementioned incidents that are so closely akin to harassment?

Awaiting your reply,
One of the Regulars

Letter, Not Article

On Dec. 5, I prepared and distributed a statement, specifically in the form of a press release reflecting my views on some controversial questions, to all three San Francisco gay newspapers and to numerous other publications on a local and national level.

I was shocked to find a butchered and bastardized version of that press release—distorting the tone and intent of the piece—printed under my byline as a front-page story, "Queer Nation Splits Up," in the Dec. 12 issue of the *San Francisco Sentinel*. This was done entirely without my permission, acquiescence or prior knowledge.

As a journalist with over a decade's experience in the gay and lesbian press, I had considered—*and rejected*—the possibility of writing a news story on the matters in question; thus, the *Sentinel*'s use of my byline without consulting me represents a capricious disregard for my wishes, which has, in turn, caused me personal hardship and has damaged my good name in the community.

I am considering what remedies are available to me to redress this situation.

Mitchell Halberstadt
Colma

Oregon...

(continued from page 8)

What worries critics most is that many states with burgeoning Medicaid expenditures are looking to the Oregon Plan as an example of how to cut costs rather than advocating major structural overhaul of America's private health care system. "You can imagine how many states would like to dischargé their worst-off AIDS patients," says Nancy McKenzie, executive director of Health PAC, a medical policy pressure group.

Rather than use Oregon as an example, critics point to Canada, which has a state-run national health care system. Mike Isbell, staff attorney with Lambda Legal Defense, notes Canada manages to spend 30 percent less per capita on health care than the United States, yet average life expectancy there is two years longer than here; infant mortality is 25 percent less, and heart disease 20 percent lower. Now that's a saving.

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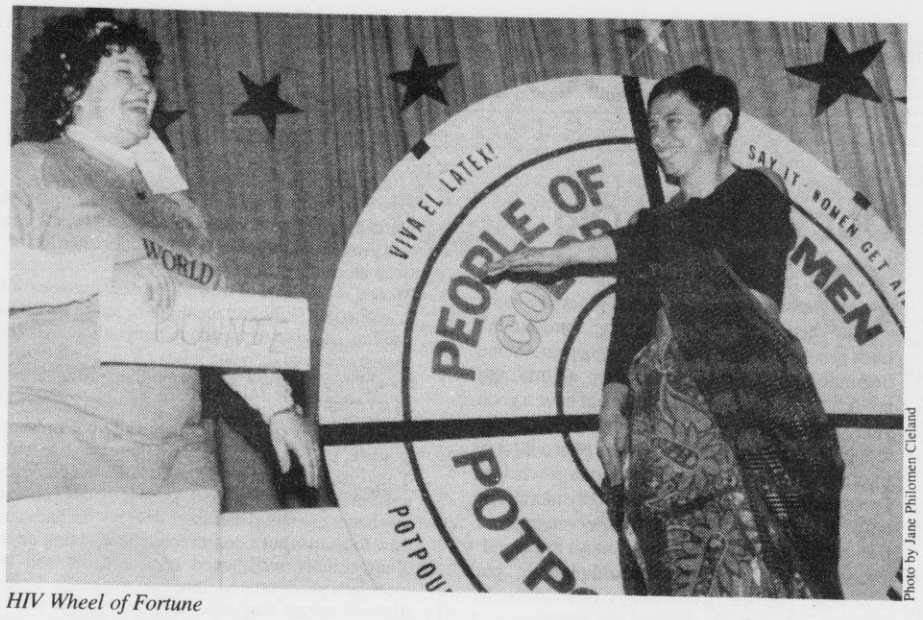

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

HIV Wheel of Fortune

WORLD Benefit: Entertainment And Information

WORLD's evening to benefit women with HIV and AIDS came off as a grand success. On Dec. 7, the first floor of the Women's Building was full of women and some men talking, laughing and listening. Rebecca Denison, the founder of WORLD (Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases), said she was pleased by the turnout, which raised almost $2,000 for the WORLD newsletter.

Entertainment and information were the two focal points. The musical group Altazor led off the evening, dedicating their set to women with HIV. Around the room, community organizations offering services to women with HIV maintained a brisk pace at their tables.

The most affecting part of the night came late in the program, as a panel of women with HIV told their stories. Denison admonished the crowd to listen carefully and to respect that the women did not speak out easily. One speaker requested that tape recorders be turned off as she spoke (KPFA was taping the program for future airing). The stories, coming from women crossing lines of race, class and sexual orientation, spoke to rejection, despair and learning to love oneself. One woman on the panel who identified as a lesbian said her doctor told her she didn't deserve medical care because of her HIV status. Another woman spoke of rejection by sexual partners, but defiantly claimed her right to be sexual.

Members of Queer Nation presented an HIV Wheel of Fortune, a gimmick that allowed the "host" to ask questions pertaining to HIV infection. Contestants had one chance to answer correctly, the penalty being HIV infection. A safe-sex demonstration by Alane of City Clinic revived people who may have been drifting off as the program went into its fourth hour. Girls giggled as she graphically demonstrated safe sex techniques with the aid of a melon, lubricant and lots of latex.

Denison said that the response to the safe-sex demonstration indicated to her that women want to know the specifics of safer sex. "It's practical...It's visual. How can we get this kind of information out to people who are sexually active?" she asked. She added, "There's such a gap between what different communities know about AIDS. What I would like to see happening is getting women who are HIV-positive talking about how we can reach communities who haven't been reached yet."

The money raised is gratifying, but won't go very far, said Denison. WORLD is currently putting together a booklet to make information available from its back issues. Covering the costs of printing and postage will probably take up a good deal of the money raised. Plus there's the matter of unpaid phone bills. Given these basic facts, WORLD is still on shaky financial ground. Nevertheless, Denison reiterated a desire to send the booklet free to HIV-positive women who could not afford it or were incarcerated. "I think we can pull it off," she said. *—Val C. Phoenix*

Miracle in Minnesota: Thompson & Kowalski Finally Reunited!!

The nightmare is finally over for Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski. On Dec. 17 Judge Jack Davies of the Minnesota Court of Appeals officially recognized their relationship and appointed Thompson as Kowalski's legal guardian, without reservation or restriction. Even more remarkable was the reasoning that led to the verdict—Judge Davies argues in his decision that the relationship between the two women should be afforded the full respect of the law, just as is the case with any heterosexual familial bond.

"It is just wonderful. I never expected anything like this," declares Karen Thompson, still sounding somewhat stunned by the decision. "It is just a remarkable decision for women with disabilities...It is a remarkable decision for gay and lesbian people. The appellate court found that Sharon and I are a family of affinity which ought to be accorded respect."

The court's decision also consisted of a point-by-point rebuttal of virtually every decision handed down in seven years of judicial hostility to Thompson trying to gain custody over Kowalski, from the moment that Kowalski's father Donald barred Thompson from visiting her injured lover. Thompson read the judge's decision, that declared, "This court finds in the absence of contradictory evidence about Sharon's decisionmaking capacity from any professionals [that] the trial court's conclusion was clearly erroneous."

Sue Wilson, Thompson's attorney, gleefully pointed out that Dec. 17 marked the couple's 12 year anniversary of exchanging vows. She argued that the judge's decision "means that now all of a sudden we have judicial recognition for a non-traditional relationship, a lesbian relationship. What we argued was if this couple had been heterosexual they could have been married, and no one would have questioned their relationship."

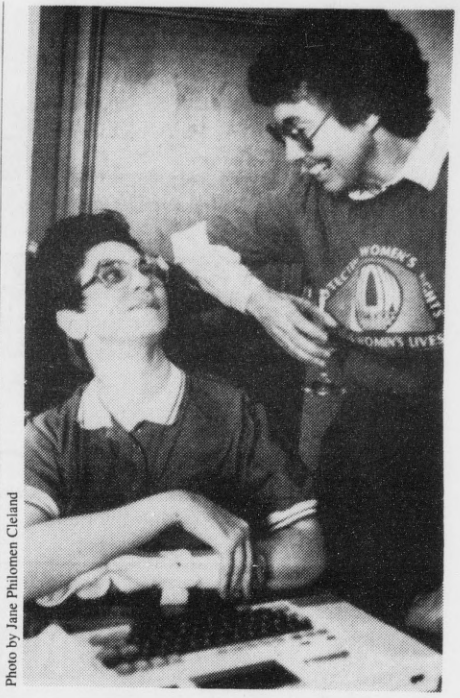

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

Other lawyers contacted by *SF Bay Times* agreed that the trial is ground-breaking, and pointed out that even though judges in other states do not have to follow the Minnesota decision, in uncharted legal terrain they tend to follow the lead of similar cases in other states. Wilson says that for gays and lesbians, "it is a safer world than it was the day before yesterday. We are not walking around with quite the same vulnerability. It is not as likely that our primary relationship will just be taken away from us."

—Tim Kingston

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

The 1987 National March on Washington

National March On Washington: Organizing Taking Shape

Organizing is beginning locally for the National March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Rights set for April 25, 1993. At a town meeting held on Dec. 8, temporary delegates for Northern California were elected and charged with representing the region at the next national steering committee meeting, to be held in Los Angeles Jan. 18-19.

Around 80 people were on hand for the meeting at the Eureka Valley Community Center in the Castro. A working committee has been meeting in the Bay Area since the national meetings in Washington, D.C. and Chicago were held last spring and summer. The authority of this group will eventually be phased out as permanent representatives are elected.

One of the necessities of choosing representatives is to meet the parity requirements mandated by the national steering committee. These require that all committees be composed of a minimum of 50 percent people of color and 50 percent women. The challenge for the Dec. 8 meeting was to elect delegates who would meet these requirements in time for the Los Angeles meeting. The working committee recommended the delegates selected be temporary, because it was not far enough along in the process of bringing in people of color and women.

The four selected were Lani Kaahumanu, who described herself as a middle-aged, mixed race bisexual feminist; Nancy Nystrom, a white lesbian activist working with National Coming Out Day in Sacramento; Karl Knapper, an African American gay activist who's a member of United Colors and Frameline; and Gypsy Tucker, an African American lesbian who is working on the national conference for Black lesbians and gays in Oakland.

In addition to the election, the gathering brainstormed demands for the March and broke down into working groups to discuss local as well as national organizing. Some of the items discussed were outreach, fundraising and communication. One topic of concern is to get the word out to smaller communities in Northern California to avoid a San Francisco bias. Most of the people in the room were from San Francisco.

Future meetings may be held in Sacramento, as well as other locales. The next San Francisco meeting is tentatively planned for 6:30 pm Dec. 20 at the Shanti Project, 525 Howard St. The Working Committee can be reached at (510) 655-4486. *—Val C. Phoenix*

Just Say Yes...

(continued from page 11)

Los Angeles. He's in big trouble because he's giving out safe sex information and condoms in his church. He preaches the gospel, but he wants people to stay alive long enough to get his message. He's a spiritual leader of his community who is facing reality too; that's a rare bird these days. A frustrated audience member asked him: "Well, I'm a Catholic and a schoolteacher. So I'm in a real dilemma. Am I supposed to say I approve of something when I don't?" And Rev. Murray said: "No, you're human. Just be yourself." He is my hero.

Is it guidance when we withold information because we don't want teenagers to behave in a certain way—or is that just control? I don't want my daughter to have sex; I won't tell her about abortion; then she won't even *think* about abortion, she'll never hear anything about it; so, who am I protecting, her or myself?

Here's my fantasy, if I had a kid. I would tell my kid: Just say yes to sex. Sex is a great thing, in all of its variety and complexity. I would want to talk about safety, health, disease; but, also, I would want to talk about love, desire, pornography, masturbation, bodies. I'd want the kid to read about sex. To know some history—how and why values change. I'd want the kid to grow up conceiving of him- or herself as a sexual person, and to think about restraint and self-control not in a context of fearing sex, but of learning to make useful decisions. To talk about experimenting sexually, fantasizing, saying no and saying yes. I'd want my kid amazed and delighted and fascinated and responsible regarding sexuality. That's healthy, I don't want my kid simply afraid and judgmental, and believing that that is morality. I'd hope my kid would struggle with moral questions, not merely swallow others' values.

Even the pro-condom people frequently say: "Well, we know that abstinence is the right way; but since kids are having sex anyway, we want them to be protected as much as possible." I'm not sure I think abstinence is the right way, necessarily. Not for everyone. I admire sexual curiosity and exploration. Those I have known who judge their own sexuality as bad, immoral or sick are in deep pain and sadly, sometimes dangerously, limited.

For my kid—and after this article, I'm sure they'll never let me adopt one—I wish sexual balance. To empathize with other people, and not treat them as meat. To enjoy sex, and be adventurous. To incorporate information about health and safety into sexual activity in a relaxed way, not a desperate way. To trust his or her own intuition, and also ask for help with decisions. Boy, my kid will have a much better road than I did. I wish I'd had that kind of sex education in school.

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BLK

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ASTROLOGY

BY JACK FERTIG

Out With the Old

OK, I admit, on electoral politics I'm too opinionated to have the objective view necessary for forecasting, but for the most part I've done damned well this year. At the beginning of 1991 I went out on a limb and predicted that Saddam Hussein would have a good year. The Soviet centrifuge would accelerate and republics would break free, but Gorby would stay in office. Less challenging to common wisdom I predicted British policies edging only incrementally to the left, growing conservatism and Catholicism (pardon my redundancy) in Poland. Crises carried into the year would play out, but otherwise I predicted a dull year. And so it's been.

Coming Jan. 2: Predictions for 1992!

Mercury's just turned direct, so recent misunderstandings can be cleared up easily over the next couple of weeks. But double check your gift and card lists right now, and keep receipts for any needed exchanges.

The full moon (in Gemini) is Friday night/Saturday morning, Dec. 20-21 at 2:24 am, and closely followed by the Solstice, Saturday night/Sunday morning at 12:55 am. The witches' tradition is to stay up through the longest night (the night of the Solstice) with magick and merrymaking.

Venus lines up with Pluto on the 24th, fueling any family drama waiting to happen. It could be a night of tremendous passions, be they lust, envy or rage. (I'll take passion number one, thank you!) Set up your circumstances accordingly. On the heels of Xmas (and they'd better be Cha-Cha Heels, dammit!) comes a Saturn-Sun aspect that tempts one to hang on and try to control situations. Good for determined efforts at restructuring a work situation, but not a nice aspect for the end of family gatherings. You can buy your own Cha-Cha Heels. Try to leave in a timely and graceful fashion.

SUN SIGNS

ARIES: Holiday travels are likely to go at least slightly awry. Patience is not your strong suit, but since you are easily distracted, bring some entertaining distraction to keep you civil. This is a great time for your work and career, but not at all as you'd planned. Crazy surprises will work out for the better; be ready to improvise. Toward New Year's you finally get a handle on questions that have been annoying you recently. Tempted to demonstrate your intellectual or spiritual authority, you can easily become a boring pain in the *tuchis*. While you're in such a brilliant mood it's an ideal time to learn, so keep your mouth shut and ears open.

TAURUS: Your famous patience is a bit thin for a few days (until Dec. 23). You're experiencing flashes of brilliance and insight that feel irrepressible, but do make an effort. As you normally recognize, there is indeed a time and a place for everything. Remember that it is more worthwhile to challenge yourself than to challenge others. Some of your outbursts are intellectual, some spiritual, and some very, very libidinous. Mind, body and soul can come together in a blaze of glory right now. Well, the time is all right; just find the place.

GEMINI: Your confidence and charisma are at a peak right now. Be careful! You could easily become a bit overbearing. Your partner will help you know appropriate bounds. You don't have to agree, but you should at least listen and respond respectfully. Fights can erupt easily. They'll blow over if you don't take it too seriously. Issues that get out of hand on the Solstice weekend can be resolved the following weekend. Seal your new agreement with much more than a kiss!

CANCER: You think you're getting a handle on figuring out your relationship(s), but every answer leads to more questions. Work makes a good distraction and a focus for your energy, but make sure you really are focusing your energy. When you get antsy take a deep breath, breathe again, and talk it out with someone. A certain co-worker can offer some helpful ideas about your relationship, but the others don't want to hear about it.

LEO: Nothing at work is going as expected. If you give it a chance it will all turn out better than you could have hoped. Control queen that you are, that will prove very difficult. Greet the inevitable disruptions as challenges to your improvisational skills. Money is also kind of weird right now, but the trick is to sharpen skills and techniques, not to invest or gamble—despite tremendous temptation. 'Tis the season, but budget your jollity. You of all people should be able to spread cheer without using money as a crutch.

VIRGO: You could easily make all your presents at home, but respect the space of those you live with. Your creativity is at a peak right now, but domestic tension is also high these days. If it makes you feel any better, go ahead and sing, "Wreck the halls and bow to Kali," but I don't recommend acting on it. Your usually well-honed critical skills will be especially sharp around these two weekends. Using them on others may be considered assault with a deadly weapon. Clean out your room and stay out of trouble.

LIBRA: Family drama is inevitably thick this time of year, and this year it's thicker than usual. Your efforts to manage it will backfire, only setting you up as a target. Rather than helping your siblings and parents resolve their problems, sit blythely aside and save your notes and suggestions for a journal entry. It could prove very educational for you. Don't attempt to share it with anyone but your therapist or your ACA sponsor.

SCORPIO: This is an expensive time of year, especially for you. Remember, you are not responsible for the nation's economy. Nor should you buy your friends presents that will support them until a Democrat is elected president. Financial stress seems to surround you, but your sense of humor is especially acute now. Small gifts, inexpensive, but humorous and thoughtful, work well. Your sense of humor makes a great asset for parties, but you naturally tend toward extremes in all things. A few epigrams or stunts here and there are all very nice, but you aren't Oscar Wilde and nobody wants you to be Benny Hill! Let it flow naturally, and don't let success go to your head. Once you're tempted to work it, give it a rest!

SAGITTARIUS: Relax, darling. Everybody already knows you're the life of the party. The holiday spirit is all well and good, but right now a little discipline and a cooler sense of decorum could be highly profitable. Energies focused into your work will make you a prime candidate for promotion and/or a raise. Your smiling attitude is a definite plus, but you know how you get when you take a little encouragement too far. Make like a snowman—smiling, but cool.

CAPRICORN: Adventures in inner space can easily trigger anxiety and temper right now. Although you seem to be enjoying the general gaiety of the holidaze, these two weekends bring up some rude surprises from the realms of memory and emotion. Don't try to make rational sense of it, but accepted on their own terms, emotions do make their own kind of sense. Leave yourself time for quiet introspection, and give yourself time to freshen up and perk up your attitude for all the obligatory celebration. *Happy Birthday: Katie Tindall and Raphaelle MacMahon!*

AQUARIUS: As usual you are of two minds—one for each head. On the one head, ur... uhh... hand—you would like to spend a pleasantly quiet time with your dearest in a solstice game of stockings and chimneys. (If this seems at all obtuse, go ask Dr. Freud.) On the other hand, you do want to get out to celebrate and get just as wild as the season allows. An orgy would make a good reconciliation, or good scheduling to allow your bright ideas to enflame these darkest nights both privately and publicly. Your opinions are already well known, dear. Political debates can really ruin a party, and you tend to get much too serious and vehement right now. Get back to your chimneys and stockings, and all involved will be much happier.

PISCES: Don't be surprised when you get a caftan for a holiday gift. You are definitely getting too big for your britches. You could get along very nicely, win friends, influence people, be a real doll. Alas, now comes the temptation to take control and run things just as you please. On what authority, you should ask yourself. With a little of your typical humility and dedication you could focus on your immediate tasks at hand and earn rave notices.

To arrange a personal or commercial astrological consultation call Jack Fertig at (415) 864-8302.

THE SAN FRANCISCO
BAY TIMES CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

COMING UP!

COMPILED BY
MAXINE MORRIS

DEC 19 / T H U

Holiday Food Drive spons by Project Open Hand. Project Open Hand barrels are accepting food donations at several Security Pacific Bank & California Federal Bank branches, as well as bookstores and Castro-area bars. Project Open Hand feeds men, women & children with AIDS in San Francisco, Oakland & Berkeley. Info: 558-0600.

Respite for Family Caregivers of PWA/HIV: Offered by Visiting Nurses & Hospice of SF. See 12/5 listing for details.

Golden Gate Connection Christmas Dinner/Social reservations deadline is today—see 12/21 listing for details.

Rainbow's End lesbian/gay/bisexual youth group meets this evening, see Parents & Kidsbox for details.

Jazz, Dinner & Dancing at ASTA Supper Club with Clairdee—see 12/12.

Project Inform HIV Town Mtg: Project Inform, the AIDS/HIV treatment info & advocacy organization, sponsors a special HIV town meeting tonight, 7-9 pm at the Laurel Heights Auditorium, UCSF, 3333 California St at Presidio, SF. Sub-level 1. Tonight's topic: "Preventive Medicine: Controlling HIV Progression & the Onset of Opportunistic Infections." Presenter: Martin Delany, executive director of Project Inform. Free, public welcome. Info: PI Hotline 558-9051 or (800) 334-7422.

Queer Options Seminar series continues with "Naming Names," an evening of unrestrained "outing." Participants are invited to toss out the names of famous people of uncertain sexual orientation & present what evidence they have regarding them. In each case, the class will vote on its conclusions. 7-9 pm free. Everett Middle School, 450 Church St, SF. Room 115. No registration necessary. Info: 255-1042.

Soul Ventures Holiday Mixer: Join Soul Ventures, a social networking/matching service for the Bay Area HIV-positive/PWA community, for an eve of hors d'oeuvres, dessert & entertainment. With special appearances by funnyman Danny Williams, Nurse Bush and Seth Montfort! Beer, wine & soft drinks provided—don't miss! 7-10 pm, $20. Call for info on the "Adopt A Buddy" scholarship program or for a free membership brochure. RSVP by 12/14. Info/res 543-2520.

Marin BACW Dines Out: Join Bay Area Career Women for a festive dinner at the Buckeye Roadhouse, Mill Valley's newest gathering spot. 7 pm. Space limited to 14 women, reservations due by 12/14. For info/res call Avril 383-6737.

Rounds Singing for Women Class—see 12/5.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group Card Party: Bring a deck of cards, card-playing accessories & your ideas for a fun night with a group of friendly women! 7:30 pm. MidPeninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St, Palo Alto. Info: Lynn (408) 723-4196 or Marilyn (415) 969-1260. All women are welcome!

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra perform Handel's *Messiah*—see 12/14.

Latin American Music at La Pena: Contemporary & folkloric music with Carlos Briceno y *Toda America*. 7:30 pm, $7. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: (510) 849-2568.

Windham Hill Winter Solstice Tour at Great American Music Hall: Concert with *Modern Mandolin Quartet*, Liz Story and Michael Manring. 8 pm, $16. 859 O'Farrell St, SF. Info/res: 885-0750.

Gay Comedy Night at the Other Cafe with comics Maureen Brownsey & Karen Williams. 8 pm, $7. 5800 Shellmound St, Emeryville. Info: 601-4888.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," Global Riot present their holiday season queer comedy show. Part scripted, part improv, totally fabulous. A night of music, big dance numbers, audience gifts & basic queer holiday cheer by SF's only lesbian & gay comedy improv group. 8 pm, $10. Runs Thurs-Sun thru 12/29 at Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Benefit for the Eagle Bear Film Project, a film project about AIDS. Entertainment with dj's Tim Luster & Diane, plus live percussion performances. 9 pm, $4-6. El Rio, 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

Gay Dance Nite at Everybody's Coming Out Politics Club, 5800 Shellmound, Emeryville. An evening of jammin' music, interesting people, state of the art atmosphere, alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages, plus the ECO dancers. Thursdays, 9 pm-2 am, free admission before 9 pm, $4 after. Info: (510) 601-4888.

DEC 20 / F R I

Pagan Potluck spons by Theater Artaud: Come celebrate in the proper pagan holiday spirit! Bring your most irreverent & hedonistic specialties (live music, decorations, plates, napkins, cups, serving utensils, hot plates, soda, wine, beer, flowers, candles) to share. 6:30-9 pm at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St, SF. For info or to RVSP, call 621-7641.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra perform Handel's *Messiah*, with guest artists Dana Hanchard, Leneida Crawford, Steven Stolen, Leroy Kromm, and Univ of Calif Chamber Chorus. 7:30 pm tonight at Herbst Theatre, SF; 7:30 pm tmw at First Methodist Church, Palo Alto. Tix $23-30. For info/res: City Box Office 392-4400.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/19.

"The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie," annual holiday dance/theater extravaganza presented by the Dance Brigade, featuring music composed by jazz pianist Mary Watkins and played by a 10-piece ensemble conducted by Nan Washburn of *Bay Area Women's Philharmonic*. Over 50 Bay Area dancers perform, including Native American and African American dancers, aerial performers, a Capoeria troupe, dancers in wheelchairs & others. Runs today thru 12/22 at 8 pm, with Sat & Sun matinees at 2 pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakl. Tix $13 advance, $15 at door; $10 for kids under 12, srs & disabled. Tix available at Modern Times Bookstore in SF and La Tienda (at La Pena) and Mama Bears in Oakl. Info: (510) 465-3686.

Christmas Concert at La Pena with Rafael Manriquez & Lichi Fuentes, Maura Correa & Xavier Casa de Mont. A musical journey thru Spain & Latin America, with songs of peace and hope. 8 pm, $8. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: (510) 849-2568.

Festival Consort with Consort of Voices return to Old First Concerts with their 10th annual concert of medieval & Renaissance music. Dressed in period costumes, they perform on a variety of period instruments. 8 pm at Old First Church, Van Ness Ave at Sacramento, SF. $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info/res: 474-1608.

Club Foot Orchestra celebrates the CD debut of their acclaimed original score to the classic silent film *Metropolis* with a party at DNA Lounge, 375 11th St, SF. Info: 626-1490. Fun starts at 9 pm.

Winter Solstice Beach Party: Celebrate California-style, with Bi-Friendly SF. Wear your swimsuit, Hawaiian shirt, dark shades; bring beach toys, and munchies for the potluck. 9 pm. For location & other info call 753-0687.

Nzinga World Beat Dance Party at El Rio, with dj Mongrel. 9 pm-2 am, $3. 3158 Mission St, SF. Info: 282-3325.

David MacLean in "Quarantine of the Mind," a solo performance piece about a gay man living in crazy times. Piece examines the precarious nature of living in an era when AIDS has changed what being gay once meant. 10 pm, $10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Women's Words at The Marsh: Part of the "Spoken Word Savages" performance series. 10:30 pm, $4. Kimi Sugioka performs a number of her emotionally charged & visionary "song poems," accompanied by shakuhachi player Wendy Gilmore. Tonight's program also features emerging young poet Maura O'Connor reading from her first collection of poetry entitled "Hummingbird Graveyard." The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia St, SF. Info: 558-8112.

"Miss Gulch Returns" to Mason Street Theatre in a benefit performance for Equity Fights AIDS. Remember Miss Almira Gulch—the dog-snatching, basket-wielding, spiteful spinster-next-door who had it in for Dorothy's little Toto—well, thanks to Fred Barton she finally gets to tell us her side of the story—complete with triple entendres, honky-tonk rhythms, lots of wit & wisdom. 11:30 pm, $10 donation. Mason Street Theatre, 340 Mason St at Geary, SF. Info: 981-SHOW.

DEC 21 / S A T

Lafayette-Moraga Trail/Walnut Creek Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Take Route 24 East to the Pleasant Hill Road exit. Go South on Pleasant Hill Road to intersection of Pleasant Hill Road & Olympic Blvd. Turn right on Olympic and meet in first parking lot on right, at 9:30 am. Info: Roz 939-3579 or Greg 865-6792.

Cat Behavior Class: Trouble with Tabby? Come to this month's cat behavior class, led by cat consultant Kate Gamble, and get answers to all your kitty questions, plus some added insight into what makes Tabby tick (finally!). Spons by SF SPCA. 10 am-noon, $5 donation requested. SF SPCA, 2500 16th St, SF. Info: 554-3000.

El Corte de Madera Preserve Hike with SF Hiking Club. Near Woodside, San Mateo County. 5-mile hike, with total elevation gain of 600 feet. If it's clear you'll have a view of the coast from Pt Reyes to Monterey Bay. We'll also visit the Methuselah Tree, 14 feet in diameter & reputed to be 1800 years old (it's one of the few survivors of old-growth forest in the Santa Cruz Mountains). Roundtrip auto mileage 80 mile, cost per car $8, to be shared among passengers. The terrain is rugged—wear good hiking boots. Bring lunch, water, warm clothing. Rain cancels. Meet 10 am at the big Safeway sign, Market & Dolores , SF. Led by Marko Perdih.

Kids' Program at La Pena, see Parents & Kidsbox.

Rafiki Services Project seeks volunteers to provide emotional & practical support to African American men with AIDS or HIV-related illness. Call 346-5860.

Dreaming the Dark: A Winter Solstice Celebration with Jamie McHugh, MA, RMT: A day & evening of movement, meditation, mandala-making, drumming & community to commemorate & celebrate the longist night of the year, and the returning of the light. Noon-10 pm, $75. Includes special solstice supper by Vital Balance Catering/Barney Stein. Fairfax location. Info/res: 258-0975.

Singer/songwriter/activist Holly Near presents a special holiday concert at the Montgomery Theatre to benefit the San Jose Repertory Theatre. 2 pm. For info/res call the Box Office, (408) 291-2255.

Golden Gate Connection: Social club for heavyset men & their admirers, celebrates the season with a Christmas Dinner/Social at St Francis Lutheran Church. 6-10 pm, $8. Features delicious, complete chicken cordon bleu dinner, beverages included. Great company, good food, don't miss! 152 Church St at Market, SF. Reservations due by 12/19. Info/res: Bobbi 871-7870.

BWMT Holiday Potluck Dinner Party: Join Black & White Men Together for some holiday fun! Bring a dish, dessert or drink to share. 6:30 pm. 1350 Waller St, nr Haight & Masonic, SF. Everyone is welcome!

Poetry, Music & Art for Freedom: A holiday celebration to benefit Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party. 7 pm at Valencia Hall, 523A Valencia St nr 16th, SF. Don't miss! Info: 864-1278.

Winter Solstice Celebration & Communion at Amron Metaphysical Center: 7 pm. All welcome! 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 775-0227.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra perform Handel's *Messiah*—see 12/20 listing for details.

Klubstitute Homophile Niteclub & Cabaret: Tony Vaguely presents the Sick & Twisted Players in "The Shining... The Musical". Also *Pansy Division*, the Bay Area's fave homosexy rock 'n' roll boy band; Ggreg Taylor's "Cconcentration Ccamp!" and drag dj Miss Go Go Chanel. $2.49 before 10 pm. Free clothes check. 21 & over, bring ID. Info: Remix or Diet 826-5358. 1751 Fulton St nr Masonic, SF.

"Impromptu Night" with Girth & Mirth Club. 8-11 pm, free. Bring your own refreshments. 176-B Page St, SF. Info: 824-0260.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/19.

Queer Solstice Youth Dance spons by Outrage. 8-11 pm, $3 donation at door. No one over 21 admitted without accompaniment by someone under 21. Beverages & light refreshments served. Alcohol-free environment. Proceeds benefit the Youth Task Force of PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays). Billy De Frank Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 175 Stockson Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 984-4066.

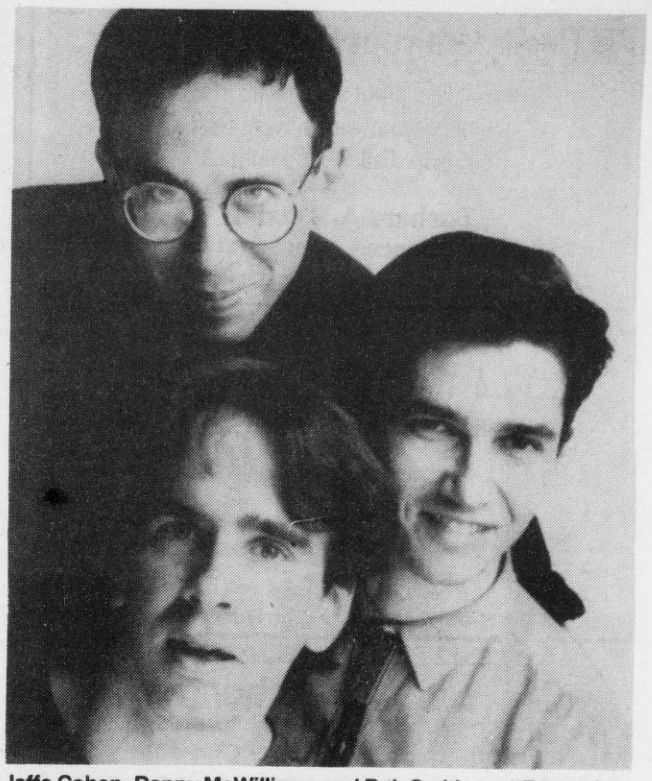
Dyke World Beat Dance Party: spons by the Whiptail Lizard Womyn's Collective & friends. Come dance & socialize in a womyn-only, drug-alcohol-smoke-free environment. The gossip will commence at 8 pm, the music stops at midnight, so arrive early for maximum fun! Harriet Tubman Room, 3rd floor of the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St at Valencia, SF. Womyn's organizations are encouraged to set up tables, leaflet, & vend wares. Call 267-6979 for info. Childcare provided with 48 hrs notice.

Other Cinema Series at ATA: Night of new experimental works by Bay Area artists. See Jay Rosenblatt's *Short of Breath*, Steven Dye's *Loon*, Al Alvarez' *Quixote Dreams*, and Michael Baron's *The Thing*. Plus recent pieces by Ed Jones, Larry Kiess, William Davenport, Nicole Cousino, Vincent Oresman and others. 8:30 pm, $5. Artists Television Access, 992 Valencia St, SF. Info: 824-3890.

Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra in concert at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. 9 pm, $10. Info/res: 885-0750.

Unity Pre-Holiday Jam to benefit the upcoming BGLLF conference. 9 pm-3 am, $7-10 SL, with raffle. Features dj Stanley and performance by Donna Terry! Koncepts Cultural Gallery, 480 3rd St, Oakl.

Benefit Holiday Party at the Forum Nightclub: Features the exclusive debut & farewell, the "one time only" live per-



Jaffe Cohen, Danny McWilliams and Bob Smith are "Funny Gay Males," at Josie's Cabaret this month.

Harold Blank's Wild Wheels premieres at the M.H. de Young Museum in January. See OnStage for info.

Equity Fights AIDS—"Miss Gulch Returns" a wicked musical benefit performance at Mason St Theatre. See Dec. 10.

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Chicken Brochettes w/Pineapple Salsa
Matsui Orange & 3 Melon Salad
Jumbo Prawns w/Asparagus & Endive
Mango Sorbet & Champagne
* *Choice of Entree* *
<Filet Mignon with Bacon> ($63.00)
<Lobster Escoffier> ($69.00)
<Chicken Breast w/Truffles> (60.00)
<Vegetarian Wellington> ($57.00)
Creme Brulee with Raspberries
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Oppenheimer
2050 Divisadero Street (off Sacramento) 563-0444
Tuesday Saturday from 5:30. Sunday Brunch: from 10:30 - 2:15

formance of the *Stocking Stuffers* band, featuring Live 105's Rick Steward & Mark Hamilton, and KNBR's Cammy Blackstone singing "Santa' Gonna Get His Head Kicked in Tonight," with backup band made up of members of *The Ramonas* (Patty & Suzy Ramona) and *The Witnesses* (Dave Dick & Billy DeBoom). A silly event to warm your egg-noggin' and benefit the Harvest Food Bank & the SF Firefighters Toy Program. 9 pm, free with a food or toy donation, $8 otherwise. 177 Townsend St, SF. Info: 974-1156.

Brazilian Dance Concert with *Voz do Brazil*. Samba, lambada & Afro-Brazilian rhythms. 9:30 pm, $8. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 849-2568.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in Richmond, see 12/7 listing for details.

Gay Comedy Night at Josie's Cabaret. Night of laughs with comics Tom Ammiano, Karen Williams & Scott Capurro. 10 pm, $8. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

DEC 22 / SUN

Rafiki Services Project seeks volunteers to provide emotional & practical support to African Americans with AIDS or HIV-related illness. Call 346-5860.

Women's Winter Solstice Party & Potluck for old lesbians and their friends. Spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). 5 pm. Info: Pat 626-7000.

GLAAD-Eastbay: The Eastbay chapter of Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation meets tonight to discuss & formulate responses to media defamations. 7 pm at Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley. Info: 861-4588.

"Fruitcakes on Parade" at Josie's Cabaret with Global Riot—see 12/19.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in SF and in El Cerrito, for details see 12/8.

DEC 23 / MON

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Josie's Cabaret with emcee Maureen Brownsey. 8 pm, $4. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone by 7 pm. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

STTV: Straight Talk Television presents Lena Lovich, Diamanda, Legendary Pink dots, Holly Woodlawn Squares, Dead Marilyn & Typhoon. 10 pm on SF Viacom cable channel 25.

DEC 24 / TUE

AIDS Support Group for Jews, spons by Jewish Family & Children's Services—see 12/17 listing for details.

"Lavender Lounge Goes to the Gym: Part II," airs at 1:30 pm on SF cable channel 25—don't miss Billy De Herrera leading aerobics as Richard Simmons! For more info on Lavender Lounge, TV dance party for gay boys & girls, call the hotline: 337-4921.

Christmas Winds Concert at Old First Church. Traditional Christmas Eve concert features the *Baroque Arts Ensemble*, with Carol Negro, performing Christmas music from the Middle Ages thru the Baroque. Don't miss this celebration of Christmas music from many times & places. 8 pm, $8 gen'l, $6 stdnts & srs. Info/res: 474-1608. Van Ness Ave & Sacramento, SF. Info/res: 474-1608.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in Cupertino, see 12/10 listing for details.

Come Home for Christmas: Join Dignity/SF, a faith community of lesbian, gay & bisexual Roman Catholics, family & friends, for a celebration of the Solemn Vigil of Christmas & Midnight Mass. 11:15 pm at Dolores Street Baptist Church, 208 Dolores at 15th, SF. Info: 255-9244.

DEC 25 / WED

CUAV Needs Volunteers—Community United Against Violence seeks volunteers for their expanded programs, see 12/11 listing for details.

Writing Workshop for Women Class accepting registrations, see 12/17 listing for details.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in SF, see 12/11 listing for details.

DEC 26 / THU

Forbidden Images Gallery seeks Board members, see 12/11.

Men's Friendship Group meets 2:45 pm at 711 Eddy St, SF. Spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Info: 626-7000.

Rounds Singing for Women Class—see 12/5.

Jazz, Dinner & Dancing at ASTA Supper Club with Clairdee! 7:30-11:30 pm. One Rincon St, 101 Spear St, SF. Info/res: 495-2782.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/19.

Gay Comedy & Dancing at the Other Cafe, 5800 Shellmound St, Emeryville. 8 pm, $7. Info: 601-4888.

"An Evening at the Chez" with ETVC, the TV/TS & Friends Club: End of the month social with live entertainment and a visit from the Ice Princess! 8 pm, SF location. Holiday attire. ETVC is a 400-member social & support group for the transgender community. For info call (510) 549-2665 or write ETVC, PO Box 426486, SF 94142.

"Some Enchanted Evening: The Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," a celebration of America's finest musical theater moments, presnted by ACT. Tonight thru 12/28 & 12/30 at 8 pm; 2 pm on 12/28; 3 & 7:30 pm on 12/29; and 9 pm on 12/31 at Herbst Theatre, SF War Memorial Veteran's Bldg. 12/31 New Year's Eve event includes a gala champagne supper with the cast following the 9 pm performance in the Green Room of the Herbst Theatre; with dining and dancing until the wee hours of the morning. Call 749-2ACT for tix/info.

Gay Dance Nite at Everybody's Coming Out in Emeryville—see 12/19 listing for details.

DEC 27 / FRI

Women in Black stand in protest of Israeli occupation of the Palestinian homeland. Today's protest is in solidarity with Women & Peace, who will be holding a rally in Jerusalem calling for "two states for two peoples" through open negotiations with the PLO. 12:30-1:30 pm on Polk Street across from SF City Hall. Info: 755-2708.

BACW New Year's Eve Dinner Dance—Today's the deadline to make your reservations! See 12/31 listing for details. Don't miss!

"Some Enchanted Evening: the Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein,"—see 12/26 listing for details.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/19.

Dishing It Out: *Waitresses & Their Unions in the 20th Century*—author Dorothy Sue Cobble discusses her book at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, free. Info: 282-9246.

Andean Music at La Pena: Andean music from Bolivia, Peru & Ecuador, with *Karumanta*. Night of lyrical & powerful songs played on traditional instruments. 8 pm, $8. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 849-2568.

Nzinga World Beat Dance Party with dj Mongrel at El Rio, 3158 Mission St, SF. 9 pm-2 am, $3. Info: 282-3325.

Gwen Avery & Blackberri in Concert at Josie's Cabaret: Night of hot & sizzling soul, r&b, gospel, folk, jazz reggae & more with two Bay Area greats. Final performance, don't miss! 10 pm, $10. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

"Spoken Word Savages" spoken word performance series at The Marsh continues with "Global Beat," readings by poets TM Goto & David Flynn. 10:30 pm, $4. The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia St, SF. Info: 558-8112.

DEC 28 / SAT

Lake Merritt Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Meet at corner of 14th & Oak Streets in front of the Cameron Stanford House at 9:30 am. Info: Roz 939-3579 or Greg 865-6792.

BWMT Rap/Social: Tonight's discussion topic: "What Should Be BWMT's 1992 Agenda?" Come discuss how Black & White Men Together should fullfill their statement of purpose. Everyone welcome! Doors open at 6:30 pm, raps begin promptly at 7 pm. Peter Eggenberger, facilitator; Calvin Lowery, greeter. 1350 Waller St, nr Haight & Masonic, SF. Refreshments served.

Jazz, Dinner & Dancing at ASTA Supper Club with Lisa Torres. 7:30-11:30 pm. One Rincon Center, 101 Spear St, SF. Info/res: 495-2782.

Vested Interests: *Cross-Dressing & Cultural Anxiety* author Marjorie Garber discusses her book, a look at drag as a critique of gender roles & as a cultural phenomenon. 8 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

Decoration Prep Night: Come help Girth & Mirth Club prepare for their New Year's Eve bash (see 12/31). 8-11 pm at 176-B Page St, SF. Info: 824-0260.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," *with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret, see 12/19.*

"Some Enchanted Evening: the Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein,"—see 12/26 listing for details.

New Year's Eve Fiesta at La Pena Cultural Center with *Conunto Cespedes*. Come ring in the new year with great Afro-Cuban rhythms. 9:30 pm-1 am, $12 in adv, $15 day of show. Proceeds benefit La Pena. Info: (510) 849-2568. Special New Year's Eve Dinner in Cafe de la Paz features full table service & a great menu, call (510) 843-0662 for reservations.

Gay Comedy Night at Josie's Cabaret with comics Marilyn Pittman, Dan Morgan & Karla Carmony. 10 pm, $8. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in Richmond, see 12/7 listing for details.

PARENTS & KIDS BOX

Photo by Marty Sohl

Pickle Family Circus.

Legends & Folk Tales of Brer Rabbit: Lorraine Hansberry Theatre production of the Brer Rabbit stories, adapted from the works of Julius Lester. A visually beautiful, delightfully composed show—don't miss! Runs thru 12/29, call 474-8800 for reservations. Also see the review, elsewhere this issue.

Marvel Maids Christmas Toy Drive for Kids with AIDS. Thru 12/20, Marvel Maids, a Bay Area home cleaning service, will pick up toys from Bay Area residents & distribute them to organizations helping children with AIDS. If you live in SF or the Eastbay & would like to donate a new, or nearly new, unwrapped toy or game for a child (ages 3-12) call 392-3222 to arrange for a pick-up.

Prospective Queer Parents Group: For lesbians & gay men who are interested in co-parenting, or seek known donor situations. For info call Leland (510) 841-4663.

Baby Blues: In Pursuit of Fertility—12-wk group for women having made ten or more insemination attempts. Discuss the feelings of isolation, helplessness, frustration & envy that can complicate trying to get pregnant. Mondays 6:30-8 pm in Oakland. Info: Marsha Blachman, LCSW (510) 835-8919.

Rainbow's End Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Youth Group for ages 23 & under meets Thurs evenings. 6:30-7 pm drop-in time, 7-9 pm group time. 12/5, 12 & 19. For location & other info call 457-1115.

Small Change Strolling Group meets 12:30 am every Wednesday for excursions and a stroll thru Golden Gate Park. Free, everyone's welcome! Small Change also keeps a file of people interested in childcare exchange, playgroup formations, etc. Drop by & take a look. 1234 9th Ave, SF. Call 566-1234 for more info.

Public Observation Programs provided by the Peninsula Astronomical Society. The Observatory is open on clear Friday nights for viewing of stars, planets, galaxies, star clusters & nebulae thru a 16-inch reflecting telescope or a 6-inch refractor telescope. Observatory is located at Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Rd, Los Altos Hills, halfway round the campus loop near Parking Lot T. Info: 949-7334. Observatory is closed when it is cloudy.

Christmas at Dunsmuir House and Gardens: Experience a Victorian Christmas with tours, horse carriage rides, high tea or buffet brunch, plus chance to do some holiday shopping. 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. Thurs-Sun, thru 12/22. Tix $9 gen'l, $8 srs, $5 youth, kids under 6 are free. For program details & other info call (510) 562-3232.

Clean & Sober New Year's Eve Dance at First Unitarian Church, fundraiser for Living Sober Conference. Childcare provided! See 12/31, Main Calendar listing for details.

Winter Classes & Wkshops at Richmond Art Center, for adults & kids. Variety of visual arts media offered. Special series of classes for kids ages 3-16. Info: 620-6772.

For Kids at La Pena: 12/21—Amiguitos de la Pena present Loly Reed's children's flamenco troupe; 10:30 am, $4 adults, $3 kids. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 849-2568.

Plum City Players group of storytellers, songwriters & musicians present programs of original music & international folklore for kids & their parents at La Pena Cultural Center: 10:30 am on 1/11, 2/22, 3/28 & 4/25. Kids $2, grownups $3. Info: (510) 845-5095 or (510) 222-6931.

The Dance Brigade present their annual holiday extravaganza, "The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie." 12/20-22, see Main Calendar listings for details.

Arts & Artifacts Christmas Sale at Ft Mason: Spons by Bay Area dealers & collectors of ethnic arts & crafts. Thru 12/23. See Main Calendar listing for details.

"Clenchin'" a storytelling, folk/rap opera incorporating music & dance in a story tracing African & African American end-of-year celebrations (including Christmas & Kwanza) from antiquity to the present. 12/20-22 at the James Moore Theatre, Oakland Museum. Info: (510) 632-8488.

SF Children's Opera presents "A Date with Santa," an enchanting, full-length musical fairytale. 12/21. For showtimes/tix info call 386-9622.

Snoopy!! A special holiday production by Hillbarn Theatre. Entertaining musical based on the Schultz cartoon strip—parents can drop their kids off (or stay if you'd like) while they get some solitary Christmas shopping done. Hillbarn Theatre, 1285 E. Hillsdale Blvd, Foster City. For reservations, showtimes & tix info call 349-6411.

Pickle Family Circus: Lots of fun for kids & parents! Thru 1/4 at Palace of Fine Arts Theater, Bay & Lyon Sts, SF. Info: (415) 826-5678. For tix call (510) 762-BASS.

Bay Area Discovery Museum, an interactive museum for children, offers various programs for kids & their parents. Located under the Golden Gate Bridge, in Sausalito. From SF take the Alexander Ave exit off Hwy 101 in Sausalito, follow the signs to East Fort Baker; from the North & East Bay, take the last exit before the Golden Gate Bridge & follow signs to East Fort Baker. 557 East Fort Baker, Sausalito. For more info call 332-9646.

DEC 29 / SUN

Unfinished Business: Wkshop for Adoptees. 11 am-4 pm, SF location. A wkshop to write those letters to your birth or adoptive family, contact your grandmother for the first time, arrange your first meeting with your birthfather, or begin your search...whatever it is that's been in the back (or forefront) of your mind or on your shoulders wearing you down... Wkshop utilizes exercises & support to help you get some of those unfinished things done. $25 fee. Also call for info on the Healing Ourselves workshop, upcoming in February. Info/res: Amy Jane Cheney 923-1454.

Tea & Classics with members of the Women's Philharmonic, in their monthly small-ensemble performance at Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St at Market, SF. 4 pm, $6. Info/res: 861-7933.

AJIRA (Addicted Jews in Recovery Anonymous) mtg: 6-7:30 pm. Jews (and their significant others), in recovery from addiction are welcome to this special meeting & discussion on 12-Step programs. Focus is on recovery, explored in the context of Jewish perspectives. Spons by SF Jewish Community Center and Jewish Emergency Assistance Network. Free. Info: Claire Silver, 346-6040 ext 240. 3200 California St, SF.

Curbstone Press at Modern Times: A reading/reception for Curbstone Press & its authors, including Arturo Arias, Jack Hirschman, Harold Jaffe, Sara Miles, Sarah Menefee, Alfonso Quijada Urias, RA Sasaki & Susan Sherman. 7 pm, free. 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

At A Different Light Bookstore: Margaret Garber, author of *Vested Interests*, discusses her just-published study of cross-dressing & transvestism. 7:30 pm. 489 Castro St, SF. Info: 431-0891.

Ljuba Davis: Ladino Songs Concert, accompanied by Achi Ben Shalom, Ann Ben Shalom, Jan Padover, Michael Gill & Claude Palmer; at Julia Morgan Theatre. Evening of sephardic music dating from the 15th century. 7:30 pm. Tix: $10 & $7. Info/res: 845-8542.

Allen Ginsburg, Marc Olmstead, Gary Schwantes, Peter Marti, Steve Silberman, and Andy Clausen read their poetry at DNA Lounge in a benefit for the Pema Osel Ling Tibetan Buddhist Retreat. 8 pm, $7. 375 11th St, SF.

"Fruitcakes on Parade," with Global Riot at Josie's Cabaret—final performance! See 12/19 listing for details.

Asian AIDS Project Rubber Club Party at 'N Touch Bar: The "Winter Wonderland," show includes erotic games, creative skits, lip-synchs, dances, and the "Asian Rubber Beauties." Doors open 8 pm-midnight, show starts at 10 pm. 1548 Polk St nr Sacramento, SF. Info: 227-0946.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in SF and in El Cerrito, for details see 12/8 listing.

Club Female Trouble presents the return of *Typhoon*, with special appearance by Elvis Herselvis! Tonight only! At Brave New World, 1751 Fulton St btwn Masonic & Central, SF. Info: 550-0148.

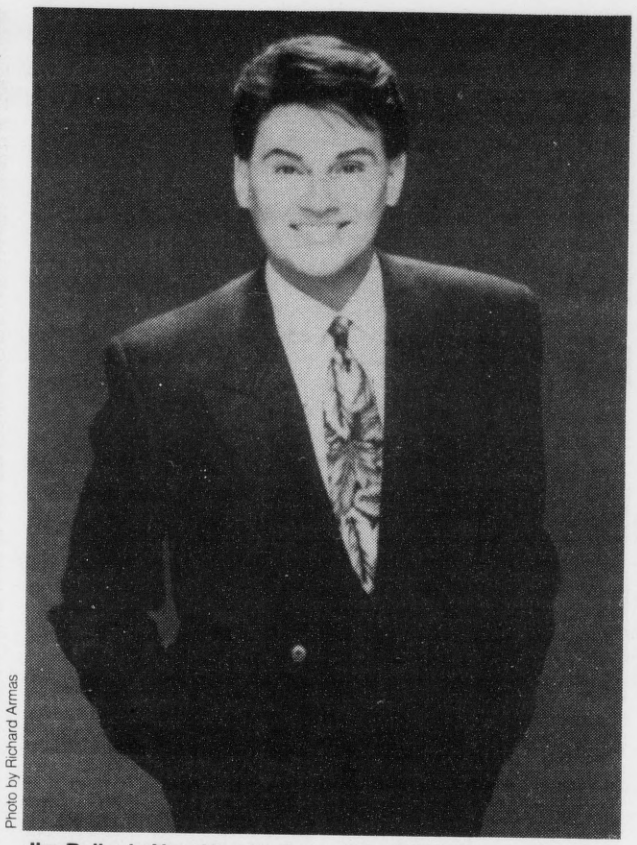

Photo by Richard Armas

Jim Bailey's New Year's show at the Plush Room. OnStage has details.

DEC 30 / MON

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Josie's Cabaret with emcee Maureen Brownsey. 8 pm, $4. Aspiring lesbian & gay comics sign up by phone by 7 pm. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info: 861-7933.

"Some Enchanted Evening: the Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," see 12/26 listing for details.

DEC 31 / TUE

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance Benefit spons by Santa Cruz AIDS Project: This year's theme—"New Year's Eve in Times Square." This black & white affair begins at 7 pm. Dinner at 8, followed by dancing with music by Pele Juju. $50 includes gourmet dinner, wine, champagne, non-alcholic beverages, party favors, great music and a whole lotta fun! All proceeds benefit the SC AIDS Project. At the La Selva Beach Clubhouse, Santa Cruz. Info/res: (408) 427-3900 or the event organizer, Don Varni (408) 722-2615. Volunteers also needed.

BACW New Year's Eve Dinner Dance: 7:30 pm-2 am at the Miyako hotel, 1625 Post St, SF. Bay Area Career Women's annual holiday bash—dance the new year in with *Swing Fever Band* and dj Denise Dunne. Tix reservations due by 12/27. Call 495-5393 for more info.

Spend New Year's Eve at Josie's with Funny Gay Males—NY's acclaimed trio of openly gay comics who present a howlingly funny view of the world through the eyes of 3 very different stand-up comics—Bob Smith, Danny McWilliams, and Jaffe Cohen. 8 & 10 pm, $10. Show runs Tues-Sun at 8 pm thru 1/12 with additional 10 pm shows on 1/3 & 10. No show on 1/1 or 1/6. 3583 16th St at Market, SF. Info/res: 861-7933.

New Year's Eve Meditation at Amron Metaphysical Center: Everyone welcome! Refreshments served afterwards. 9 pm-midnight. 2254 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 775-0227.

Girth & Mirth Club New Year's Eve Bash at 176-B Page St, SF. Don't miss! The Club provides hot & cold finger foods, soft drinks, beer, wine, and midnight champagne. $10. Info: 824-0260.

"Some Enchanted Evening: the Songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein," champagne supper gala performance for New Year's Eve—see 12/26 listing for details.

New Year's Eve Bash at Great American Music Hall with Etta James! Call 885-0750 for time & tix info.

Clean & Sober New Year's Eve Dance: Spons by Living Sober, a conference for people in recovery from alcohol. 9 pm-1 am, $15-$10. AA meeting from 7:30-8:30 pm (signed for the hearing impaired). First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. Hosted by the SF Gay & Lesbian Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. Childcare provided.

Sharon McNight performs two gala New Year's Eve shows, 9pm, $25 and 11pm, $35, at the Kassman Recital Hall, 131 Franklin St, SF. For reservations call (415) 626-8444. The Tony award nominee will be accompanied by her longtime musical director Jim Followell.

Electric City queer TV show airs tonight in Cupertino, see 12/10 listing for details.

JAN 1 / WED

New Year's Day Hike with Marin BACW: Join Bay Area Career Women for an invigorating (but leisurely) hike from the Mountain Home Inn on Mt Tam to the West Point Inn. Beautiful views. Meet 10 am sharp in the Mountain Home Inn parking lot. Bring liquids & lunch. info: Marie 383-4953.

JAN 2 / THU

Teen Support Group for teenagers who are asking questions about sexual orientation & identity. Spons by Kaiser Permanente Medical Clinic & the SF Teen Clinic. Wkly educational & support group. For more info call Aaron Cooper, PhD or Kathy Briccetti, MS at 202-2292. Anonymous & confidential.

BACW/Marin: Bay Area Career Women/Marin Business Mtg tonight, 7-9 pm. Call Lynne or Sandi for directions & other info: 457-4866.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap meets 7:30-9 pm at MidPeninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St, Palo Alto. Tonight's Clay Night! Bring your tools & accessories, come make & decorate your wildest clay creation—the clay's provided, you bring your imagination & good humor—all women are welcome! Info: Lynn (408) 723-4196 or Marilyn (415) 969-1260.

Betty Bethards, mystic, healer, and author of *The Dream Book* and *Be Your Own Guru*, lectures on "Understanding 7 Year Cycles: Taking Risks & Welcoming Change," tonight at 8 pm at Ft Mason Center Bldg A, SF. Tix $9 gen'l, $6 srs & youth. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: Inner Light Foundation (707) 765-2200.

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ON STAGE

Wild Blue by Joe Pintauro. A collection of short plays on gay themes. Theatre Rhinoceros production. Previews 1/9 & 10; opens 1/11 at 8 pm; runs Wed-Sun at 8 pm, Sun matinees at 3 pm on 1/19 & 26 and 2/2. Special Sat eve performances at 5 pm on 1/18 & 25, 2/1 & 8. Tix $11-$20; $10-$11 previews. Info/res: 861-5070. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St, SF.

Angels & Steers, written & performed by Chris Pray. Chris Pray joins with a homeless Republican, an ineffectual liberal and a homeless ex-convict to overcome his guilt and social apathy. They embark on a surrealistic adventure as they start the first Muslim Church of Jesus Cheeseburger—the religion the oil companies could not dismiss—and plot to take back the world. Runs Thurs-Sun at 8 pm thru 1/19, no shows 12/26-29. Tix $6-9 Thurs; $10 Fri & Sat; $8 Sun. The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia St nr 20th, SF. Info/res: 641-0235.

My Visits with MGM (My Grandmother Marta) by Edit Villarreal. Touching drama, memory play about the bond between a rebellious grandmother who fled Mexico to the US in 1910, and her free-thinking granddaughter, who is trying to find her place between two cultures. San Jose Repertory Theatre production. Runs Tues-Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 5 & 9 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm, thru 2/8. Matinees on 2/5 & 6 at noon. Montgomery Theater, corner of Market & West San Carlos, San Jose. Info: (408) 291-2255.

Man of La Mancha by Dale Wasserman. Raul Julia and Sheena Easton star in this 25th anniversary production of the Broadway musical hit. Previews 1/7 at 8 pm & 1/8 at 2 & 8 pm; runs Tues-Thurs at 8 pm, Wed matinees at 2 pm, thru 2/2. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market St at Hyde, SF. Info/res: (510) 762-BASS.

Grand Hotel, the Tony Award-winning hit musical directed & choreographed by Tommy Tune. Set in 1928 Berlin, this re-creation of the bestselling novel is about power & poverty, ballrooms & boardrooms, scandal & romance, suspense & survival. Previews 1/21 at 8 pm & 1/22 at 2 pm; runs Tues-Thurs at 8 pm, with Wed matinees at 2 pm, thru 2/16. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor St at Golden Gate & Market, SF. Info/res: (510) 762-BASS.

Adelaide Claus Is Coming to Town by Elisa DeCarlo. A Christmas comedy produced by EXITheatre, featuring junior high school youth from the YMCA's Tenderloin Improvement Project. Mrs Claus decides to quit working at the North Pole since she gets no appreciation for being the person who really puts Christmas together. Play runs on 12/19 at 3:30 pm at the YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave, SF; and on 12/20 & 21 at 7:30 pm at EXITheatre, 366 Eddy St, SF. Free! Info: 931-1094.

McTeague: A Tale of San Francisco adapted by Neal Bell from the Frank Norris novel chronicling turn-of-the-century life in the Bay Area. A tale of obsession & corruption, capturing the brutal vitality of the West still reeling from the excesses of the California Gold Rush. Berkeley Rep Theatre production. Previews 1/10, 11, 12 & 14; opens 1/15; runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm thru 2/27. Sat matinees at 2 pm on 1/18, 2/1 & 15; Sun matinees at 2 pm on 1/23, 2/6 & 20. Tix $18 previews; $29 opening; $23 Tues-Thurs & Sun; $29 Fri & Sat; $21 matinees. Berkeley Rep Theatre, 2025 Addison St at Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: (510) 845-4700.

The Piano Lesson by August Wilson. Pulitzer Prize-winning play, the fourth play in a cycle dramatizing & examining aspects of the African American experience in 20th century America. ACT production. Runs 12/24 at 1 pm; 12/26 at 2 & 8 pm; 12/27 at 8 pm; 12/28 at 2 & 8 pm; 12/29 at 3 & 8 pm; 12/31 at 2 & 9 pm; 1/2 & 3 at 8 pm; 1/4 at 2 & 8 pm; 1/5 at 3 & 8 pm. New Year's Eve (12/31) tix are $35, includes complimentary champagne. Fri/Sat matinee/evening tix $33, $24 & $11, all other performances $26, $20 & $10. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St, SF. Info/res: 433-9500.

Waiting for Godette by Christian Huygen. A haunting, bittersweet comedy about glamour, nail polish & womb envy. Witty, amusing, moving—the kind of play Beckett might have written if he'd been obsessed with gender & nail polish. Didi & Coco are enmeshed in a "pretty-as-possible" game of survival as they wait for a luncheon date with the Mother of All Drag Queens, Miss Godette. Theatre Rhino production. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, thru 12/21. 2926 16th St, SF. Info/res: 861-5079.

Beach Blanket Babylon Holiday Show: Popular yuletide edition of the nation's longest running musical revue. Thru 12/31. 8 pm Wed & Thurs; 8 & 10:30 pm Fri & Sat; 1 & 3:30 pm Sun. Club Fugazi, 678 Green St, SF. No performance Christmas Day. Tix $17-37. Info/res: 421-4222. Persons under 21 not admitted to evening or Wed matinee performances, minors are welcome to Sun matinee only. ID required.

Jim Bailey, internationally acclaimed illusionist, brings new show to the Plush Room at the York Hotel for a series of special holiday shows, thru 12/31. 940 Sutter St, SF. Info/tix: 885-6800.

Fat Men in Skirts by RA White. Play follows the trials of Phyllis, the wife of a Hollywood producer who specializes in futuristic tales involving loveable aliens, and her young son Bishop, plane-wrecked alone on a desert island with nothing to eat but the other passengers. Magic Theatre Northside production. Runs Wed-Sat at 8:30 pm, Sun at 2 & 7:30 pm thru 1/26 at Magic Theatre-Northside, Ft Mason Ctr Bldg D, SF. Tix $12-$21. Info/res: 441-8822.

Mother Wove the Morning one-woman show by author/performer Lynn Pearson. Lynn portrays 16 historical women in search of the Mother Goddess, lost across time as men have appropriated & transformed the Diety into a male figure. Runs Wed-Sat at 8 pm thru 12/28. Zephyr Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Tix $16-19. Info/res: 861-6895.

City of Angels Tony Award-winning musical by Larry Gelbart, music by Cy Coleman, lyrics by David Zippel. A glamorous & romantic detective story, filled with intrigue, deception & sensuality, set in 1940's Los Angeles. Barry & Fran Weissler production at Golden Gate Theatre. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, thru 1/5. Tix $42-$20, call 441-0919 or 762-BASS for info. 1 Taylor St at Golden Gate & Market, SF.

Sometimes We Need a Story More Than Food, a solo evening of theater, written & performed by Corey Fischer. Weaves traditional & autobiographical stories into a performance which moves from the remnants of Prague's Jewish quarter to the freeways of LA,

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celebrating the healing power of storytelling. A Traveling Jewish Theatre production, in association with American Conservatory Theater. Runs Wed-Sun at 8 pm, Sun matinees at 2 pm, thru 12/22. ACT Playroom, 450 Geary St nr Mason, SF. For tix & other info call 749-2228.

Blonde Like You, a work-in-progress one-man show written and performed by Albert Greenberg. Greenberg "resolves the seemingly perplexing question, 'Who am I?' by tumbling effortlessly—like a penguin in an avalanche—from one identity to another." A Traveling Jewish Theatre production, in association with American Conservatory Theater. Fri & Sat, thru 12/21, at 10:30 pm. ACT Playroom, 450 Geary St nr Mason, SF. Tix $7

Spunk, Obie Award-winning director George C Wolfe's music-and-dance-filled adaptation of short stories by Zora Neale Hurston. Berkeley Rep Theatre production. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm, Thurs matinee on 12/19 at 2 pm; thru 12/21. Tix: Tues-Thurs & Sun $23, Fri & Sat $29, matinee $21. 2025 Addison St, Berkeley. Info/res: (510) 845-4700.

Say It With Music, Michael Feinstein & Rosemary Clooney combine their talents in a concert run at the Curran Theatre, SF. Runs Tues-Sat with Sun matinees thru 1/5. For showtimes, tix & other info call 762-BASS or 441-0919.

Small Craft Warnings by Tennessee Williams. Play about eight "vulnerable human vessels" who seek refuge in a Southern California beach town bar. Jean Shelton Actors Lab production. Runs thru 12/22, Fri-Sun at 8 pm, $6. 533 Sutter St at Powell, SF. Info/res: 255-4835.

Taking Steps by Alan Ayckbourn. Rollicking marathon of mistaken identities, musical beds & unwitting intimacies. ACT production. Runs Tues-Sat at 8 pm; 2 pm matinee on Wed & Sat, 3 pm matinee on Sun; thru 1/25. Tix: $10-$26 wknights; $11-$33 wkends. Stage Door Theater, 420 Mason St at Geary, SF. Info/res: 762-BASS.

Love & Anger by George F Walker. This comic attack on power & its abuses pits the "reborn" attorney Petie Maxwell against the powerful publisher of a "fascist rag." Actors Theatre production. Previews 1/10-12, 14-16 at 8 pm; $6. Opening night gala 1/17 at 8 pm, $30; play runs Thurs-Sun thru 3/8 at 8 pm, $12. 533 Sutter St, SF. Info/res: 296-9179.

Chamber Music by Arthur Kopit. Set in an asylum, 8 women live out their fantasy world of power & revenge against an unseen enemy. Sangre World Fusion Theatre Ensemble production. Runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 7 pm thru 12/22. 21 Bernice, btwn 12th & 13th, at Folsom, SF. Tix $11 opening night, $7 Thurs, $10 Fri, Sat & Sun. Info/res: 863-5946.

Photo by Randee St. Nicholas

Sheena Easton stars with Raul Julia in the 25th Anniversary remake of "Man of La Mancha." Check OnStage for info.

Zetta by Zishan Evans. Musical play set in the 1960's about a young girl caught in a racial identity conflict while searching for her personal identity. A Zishan Community Playhouse production. Play runs Fri-Sun, thru 12/22 at On Broadway Theatre, 435 Broadway at Montgomery, SF. 8 pm. Info/res: 398-1541.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, adapted & written for the stage by Laird Williamson & Dennis Powers. ACT's annual staging of the holiday classic. Runs thru 12/26 at the Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market St, SF. Play runs at 8 pm on 12/19-21, 23 & 26; 2 pm on 12/21; 3 pm on 12/22; 7 pm on 12/22 and 1 pm on 12/24. Tix $10-$33. For info/res: 762-BASS.

A Bologna Christmas: The sometimes-annual production by Fratelli Bologna returns to Life on the Water. A charmingly blasphemous yuletide tale about the hilarious, hyper-typical American family, the Webers, as they prepare their familiar yet bizarre Christmas rituals. Play runs thru 12/29, Wed-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. No performance on Christmas Day, 12/25. Life on the Water Theater, Ft Mason Center Bldg B, SF. Tix $12-$20. Info/res: 776-8999.

Suspense, ShowBiz, Adventure & Holiday Magick: Pulp Playhouse improvisational theater troupe presents four improvised theatre pieces in revolving repertory. Thru 12/22 at the Actor's Theatre of SF, 533 Sutter St, SF. Tix $10 gen'l, $8 srs & kids. Info/res: 296-9179.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Northside Theatre Co of San Jose present the Dickens' classic. Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 3 pm, thru 12/29. Tix $8 gen'l, $6 srs & kids under 16. Olinder Theatre, 848 East William St (btwn S. 18th & 19th Sts), San Jose. Info/res: (408) 288-7820.

The 1940s Radio Hour by Walton Jones. Heartwarming holiday musical. A harried radio producer does his best to keep his show together during Christmas, 1942, with a colorful cast & spicy renditions of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" and "I'll Be Seeing You." San Jose Repertory production. Runs Tues-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5 & 9 pm, Sun at 2 & 7 pm, thru 1/5. Tix $16-$31. Info/res: (408) 291-2255. Montgomery Theater, downtown San Jose, corner of Market & West San Carlos St.

Dem Bones (Gonna Rise Again) by Roger Nieboer. An "episodic, multilingual, neo-post-modern, pan-cultural, comic-folk-opera in E minor" at Intersection for the Arts. Thurs-Sun at 8 pm thru 12/22. Tix $10. Info/res: 626-3311. 446 Valencia St, SF.

She Loves Me, a festive romantic musical comedy by Jerry Bock, Sheldon Harnick, and Joe Masteroff. Set in the 1930s, the story revolves around two penpals who are very much in love thru the mail, but don't realize that they work together in the same parfumerie & cannot abide each other in person. Hillbarn Theatre production. Runs Fri-Sat at 8 pm thru 12/21. Tix $14 gen'l, $11 stdnts & srs. Info/res: 349-6411.

Double Standards new musical revue conceived & directed by Ronnie Klein, with musical arrangements by Frank Schader & choreography by Berle Davis. Features forgotten, familiar & peculiar duets of the musical theater. Hillbarn Theatre production. Premieres as part of the theater's annual New Year's Eve gala, opens 1/2, runs Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, with two Sun matinees on 1/12 & 19 at 2 pm. Tix $10 gen'l, $8 stdnts & srs, except for New Year's Eve gala performance. Info/res: 349-6411. 1285 East Hillsdale Blvd, Foster City.

SF's Pickle Family Circus presents their annual holiday extravaganza thru 1/4 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon St at Bay (next door to the Exploratorium). Tix $8-25 gen'l, $8-20 srs, $8-15.50 stdnts. Info/res: 826-5678.

GALLERIES

Ansel Adams Center: "Survivors: A New Vision of Endangered Wildlife," photos by James Balog, of some of the world's rarest species currently threatened with extinction; on exhibit thru 2/23. "Zeke Berman: Optiks" exhibit of Berman's photos exploring a world of visual invention influenced by scientific theory; thru 3/8. "Parmelian Prints" by Ansel Adams, a series of images detailing a vital but relatively unsung aspect of Adams' photography; thru 2/16. 250 Fourth St, SF. Hrs: Tues-Sun, 11 am-6 pm. $4 gen'l, $3 stdnts, $2 srs/youth 12-17, kids under 12 are free. Info: 495-7000.

Cartoon Art Museum: "Battle Lines: Cartoon Art During WWII," thru 12/28. 665 Third St at Townsend, SF. Hrs: 11 am-5 pm Wed-Fri, 10 am-5 pm Sat. Info: 546-9481.

New Langton Arts: "Butter Wouldn't Melt in My Mouth," a photo/text installation by Nancy Barton & Mike Glass. Exhibit runs thru 1/25. Hrs: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 1246 Folsom St btwn 8th & 9th, SF. Info: 626-5416.

Robert Dana Gallery: Recent works by Nina Glaser, Pedro Jimenez, and others. Runs thru 12/23. Hrs: Mon, Tues, Fri & Sat, 11 am-7 pm, Sun noon-6 pm, and by appt. Info: 749-1849.

Michael Dunev Gallery: 77 Geary St, SF. Info: 398-7300.

Circle Gallery: Graphic satire exhibit—works by cartoonists Gahan Wilson, Jules Feiffer, John Fischetti, Lee Lorenz & Arnold Roth. Runs thru December. 140 Maiden Lane, SF. Hrs: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 12:30-5 pm. Info: 989-2100.

Art Lick Gallery: 4147 19th St, SF. Hrs: Wed-Sat, noon-7 pm, Sun noon-6 pm. Info: 621-5131.

ATA Gallery: Artists Television Access, 992 Valencia St at 21st, SF. Hrs: Sat 11:30 am-5 pm, and by appt. Info: 824-3890.

Galeria Museo, Mission Cultural Center: 2868 Mission St, btwn 24th & 25th, SF. Info: 821-1155.

SF Craft & Folk Art Museum: "Third World Trade Signs," thru 12/29. "Indonesian Textiles: Heritage in Cloth," thru 12/29. "Many Mansions," an exhibit of works by over 20 artists that transforms the premise of the dwelling, presenting the viewer with a fresh view of structures as artistic statements. Exhibit runs 1/4-2/22, opening reception 1/7, 5-7 pm. Hrs: 11 am-5 pm, Tues-Sun; 10 am-5 pm, Sat. Ft Mason Ctr Bldg A, SF. Info: 775-0990.

Richmond Art Ctr: "Acknowledging Our Host: Communal Sources," works by Dennis Olanzo Callwood, Dewey Crumpler, George Longfish, Ulysses Jenkins, Jean LaMarr & Frank Tuttle, thru 2/9. Hrs: 9:30 am-4:30 pm Tues-Fri, noon-4:30 pm Sat & Sun. Wheelchair accessible. Civic Ctr Plaza, Richmond. Info: (510) 620-6772.

University Art Museum: "Africa Explores: 20th Century African Art," large-scale exhibit on view thru 12/29. Also includes several lectures, craft demos, performances & talks. "A Profile of the 17th Century: Prints from van Dyck's 'Iconography,'" on exhibit thru 2/9. Hrs: Wed-Sun 11 am-5 pm. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: (510) 642-0808.

NIAD Gallery: National Institute of Art & Disabilities Gallery. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-4 pm. 551 23rd St, Richmond. Info: (510) 620-0290.

Bomani Gallery: Paintings by acclaimed African American artist Lois Mailou Jones, on exhibit thru 1/3/92. 251 Post St, SF, 6th floor. Hrs: Tues-Fri 11 am-5 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. Info: 296-8677.

Mace Space for Art: Hrs: Tues-Fri, 5-9 pm, Sat 10 am-9 pm. 1319 Pine St, SF. Info: 931-9670.

Vision Gallery: Vintage photographs by pictorialist photographer A Aubrey Bodine. Thru 1/11. 1155 Mission St btwn 7th & 8th, SF. Info: 621-2107.

Pro Arts Gallery: Sculpture by Brian Donahue; mixed media landscapes by David Berg & Canan Tolon. Thru 1/4. Hrs: Wed-Sat 11 am-5 pm. Closed 11/28, 12/25 & 1/1. 461 9th St (off Broadway), Oakland. Info: (510) 763-4361.

Southern Exposure Gallery at Project Artaud: Hrs: Wed-Sun, noon-5 pm. 401 Alabama St at 17th, SF. Info: 863-2141.

Capp Street Project/AVT: "The Airwaves Project," a multi-channel video installation by Shu Lea Cheang. Exhibit runs thru 12/28. Hrs: Tues-Sat, noon-5 pm. Info: 626-7747. 270 14th St, btwn Mission & South Van Ness, SF.

Turn of the Century Fine Arts: Paintings & monoprints by Sono Osato, on exhibit thru 1/11. Hrs: Tues-Thurs 11 am-5 pm; Fri-Sat 11 am-6 pm. 2518 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-0950.

Erika Meyerovich Gallery: "Grisha Bruskin: A Personal Mythology," recent paintings, sculpture, gouaches & prints by Russian artist Grisha Bruskin. Thru 1/31. 231 Grant Ave, SF. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. Info: 421-9997.

Stamp Art Gallery: "Mail Art," the Empty Envelope Mail Art Show. Exhibit of over 70 works received as a result of the call for Mail Art. Thru 12/21. 466 8th St, SF. Info: 252-5975.

Wilcox Gallery: Paintings by Brett Reichman, new work by Tony Labat; thru 1/4. Paintings by David Simpson, drawings by Gabrielle Bakker, on exhibit 1/9-2/15, opening reception 1/9, 5:30-7:30 pm. 228 Grant Ave, SF.

CCAC Gallery: 485 9th St at Broadway, Oakland. Hrs: Tues-Sat, 11 am-4 pm. Info: 653-8118.

Watercolor Paintings by Victoria Whitehand, Ray Jacobsen and Bev Judd at Quicksilver Mine Co Gallery in Guerneville. Thru 1/6/92. Info: (707) 869-9357.

Erotic Sumi Ink Paintings by SF artist Beth Katz, on exhibit at Good Vibrations thru 1/4. "Asian Erotica," exhibit of antique Chinese, Japanese, Indian & contemporary Hawaiian erotic art from the collection of Terry Guthrie, 1/7-3/7. Collector's reception 1/10, 7-9 pm. 1210 Valencia St, SF. Hrs: noon-6 pm daily, Thurs till 8 pm. Good Vibrations is also open till 8 pm on Saturdays, thru Christmas. Info: 550-7399.

"Reserved Seating," drawings & paintings by Michael Ross. On exhibit thru 1/6 at Mind Frame Gallery, 6522 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: (510) 658-8226.

Black & White Photography by JJ Kopanic & Richard Lynch, on exhibit at Cafe Latte, 4 Embarcadero Ctr, SF. Thru year's end. Hrs: Mon-Fri, 8 am-7 pm. Info: 431-4855.

"Women on Women: A Celebration of Our Cultural Diversities," multicultural exhibit of work by women in diverse media. Spons by the Northern Calif Women's Caucus for Art, in conjunction with the Women's Bldg Arts & Crafts Show at Ft Mason. Thru 1/3 at Bayfront Gallery, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Opening reception 12/7, 1-6 pm.

Abstract Renderings by Lynette Parker. Thru 1/31. Cafe?, 2885 Diamond St, SF.

Art of the Grateful Dead: Exhibit of paintings, prints, photos, posters, jewelry & sculpture; thru 2/28. Artrock Gallery, 1153 Misson St, SF. Info: 255-7390.

LVA eats out...at the Brick Hut: Exhibit of works by 23 Northern Calif members of Lesbian Visual Artists. Thru 1/5 at Brick Hut, 3222 Adeline, Berkeley. No smoking, please wear no scents. WA. Info: 821-2975.

"Faces: Memories of the Future," paintings by Miquel Creus on exhibit at eddie jacks, 1151 Folsom St, SF. Thru 1/11.

"California as Cornucopia," exhibit of rarely seen historic photographs of early California. On exhibit at California Historical Society, thru 12/27. 708 Montgomery St, SF. Info: 567-1848.

Ten Installations on exhibit at Haines Gallery, thru 12/20. Work by Seyed Alavi, Ray Beldner, Gavin Flint, Su-Chen Hung, Gigi Janchang, Lisa Kokin, Chris Komater, Robin Lasser, Charlene Milgrim and Wayne Zebzda. 49 Geary St, SF. Info: 397-8114.

"Masks & Other Works" exhibit of artwork by people living with AIDS/ARC/HIV. On display thru 12/20 in the lobby of Kaiser Medical Center, Oakland. 280 West MacArthur Blvd, corner of Broadway, Oakl. Info: (510) 596-6150.

"Another Perspective..." an eclectic selection of b&w photographs by Jane Hollaway. Exhibit runs thru December at Under Glass Gallery, 123 Townsend St, btwn 2nd & 3rd, SF. Info: 777-0605.

"In a Dream..." a portfolio of photographs on display at San Jose Museum of Art in commemoration of the 3rd Annual Day Without Art. Limited edition of photos recently published by photographers & Friends United Against AIDS, New York City. Includes work by Tina Barney, Sarah Charlesworth, Alfredo Jaar, Frank Majore, McDermott & McGough, Thomas Ruff, Andres Serrano, Lorna Simpson, Jeff Wall, James Welling, Joel-Peter Witkin and Jenny Holzer. Thru 12/31. 110 S. Market, San Jose. Info: (408) 294-2787.

Paintings, Drawings & Photographs by artist Michael Tiffany on exhibit thru 2/28 at Cafe Noodles, 2367 Market St at Castro, SF. Info: 431-8801.

Calif Society of Printmakers 1991 Membership Show: Thru 1/19 at Berkeley Art Center Gallery, 1275 Walnut St, Berkeley. Hrs: Noon-5 pm, Thurs-Sun. Info: (510) 537-9773.

RESOURCE GUIDE

AIDS RESOURCES

ACT UP/SF meets Thurs, 7:30 pm, at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Direct action & civil disobedience to end the AIDS epidemic & the injustices around it. Call 563-0724 for info. WA.

ACT-UP/Golden Gate meets Tues at 7:30 pm at 539 Hayes St, SF CA 94102. Office: 252-9275. Hotline: 252-9200.

ACT-UP Eastbay meets Wed 7:30 pm. First Unitarian Church of Oakl, 14th & Castro, Oakl (3 blocks west of City Ctr BART Station). Info: (510) 836-4401.

New Friends: a group made up of people with AIDS who help those who have been newly diagnosed. Info: 928-5352.

AIDS/HIV Nightline: Provides nighttime emotional support for people concerned about AIDS or HIV infection. Run by SF Suicide Prevention, the Nightline is staffed by trained volunteers, Mon-Fri 9 pm-5 am, Sat & Sun 5 pm-5 am. Call 668-2437 or 1-(800) 273-2437.

AIDS Trials at NIAD/NIH: the National Institutes of Health recruits volunteers for inpatient & outpatient studies of new drugs & vaccines. For info call 1-800-243-7644. If you're accepted & enroll in a study, all travel expenses, & medical care provided at NIH, is free.

The City of Berkeley offers free, anonymous blood-testing for the HIV virus at South Berkeley Women's Community Health Center, South Berkeley Community Church, 1802 Fairview St (enter at Ellis), Berkeley. Thurs 1-3:30 pm. Drop-in. For more info call (501) 644-8571 or (501) 601-8282 on Thurs.

AIDS Emergency Fund: A volunteer-run, community-funded agency that provides emergency financial aid to low-income persons with AIDS/disabling ARC in the 9 Bay Area counties. Info: 441-6407. 1550 California St #7, SF 94109.

Benefits Orientation for Persons with AIDS & ARC: SF AIDS Foundation holds 2 wkly orientations for persons with AIDS & ARC on how to access governmental financial assistance programs, & what social services are available in SF. Info: 864-5855, 9am-6 pm, Mon-Fri.

People with AIDS-SF: sponsors educational forums & newsletter, addresses research, public policy & other issues. Info: 553-2560.

Center for Positive Care (HIV Early Intervention Resource Ctr) offers multicultural & multilingual outreach, intake assessment, case management, education & psychosocial support services to newly-diagnosed HIV positive people and people with AIDS. 3180 18th St at Folsom, SF. Info: 476-3644.

California Partner Study/UCSF offers support, education, testing, lab work and physical exams for bisexual men and their female partners. All services are free. Eligible couples must have at least one member who is a person with AIDS/ARC/HIV-positive. Info: 845-2331 or (800) 262-2430.

UCSF Coping Project seeks men who are caregivers to their partners who have AIDS to learn about the stress of caregiving, how caregivers cope with these stresses, and how caregiving affects health & psychological well-being. For info on how you can help call Anne Christopher at the UCSF Coping Project 597-9177.

AIDS Care Study/UCSF seeks to interview men & women who are currently caring for a friend, partner, or family member with AIDS or symptomatic HIV infection. The study looks at the difficulties & rewards of caregiving and assesses the availability & use of services for PWAs & caregivers. Participants are interviewed 3 times over a one-year period and are paid $25 per interview. For details call 476-7732 or 476-7733.

Women's Support Group: open to any women diagnosed with AIDS. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

Youth & Children's Groups: ongoing support for those diagnosed, & for children of people with AIDS, divided by age categories. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

BAY (Bay Area Youth) Positives: Support group for adolescents & young adults dealing with HIV. Group helps minimize the stress felt among young people who are HIV+. Free. Spons by AIDS Health Project. 7 pm at 1855 Folsom St at 15th,, SF. Room 521. For mtg days & other info contact Julie Graham 386-4615 or Scott Walker 821-8764.

Bay Area HIV Support & Education Services of Black & White Men Together/Men of All Colors Together (BAHSES-BWMT/MACT) deals with issues & problems surrounding AIDS & its impact on the people of color communities. Info: 749-6714. Fax: 749-6706.

Rafiki Services Project provides practical & emotional support volunteer training; and services specifically geared toward African-American people with AIDS & HIV-related illnesses. For info contact Rodney Gooden 346-5860

Marin AIDS Support Network: emotional support for persons with AIDS or ARC & their loved ones, outreach & education. Info: 457-AIDS.

ARC/AIDS Drop-In Group for men with AIDS-related conditions or symptomatic HIV disease. Support, info, stress management. Thurs 6-8 pm. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Free. No adv reg required. Info: 626-7000.

HIV+ Drop-in Group for men testing positive. Thurs 6-8 pm, free. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF. Info: 626-7000.

HIV Dual Diagnosis Program spons by Operation Concern: Provides intake, assessment, psychiatric consultation & monitoring, counseling & psychotherapy, case management & referrals, for HIV positive lesbians & gay men whose diagnoses are complicated by psychiatric disorders and/or substance abuse. Info: 626-7000.

AIDS Health Project offers prevention programs; mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling; AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS Research. Info: 1855 Folsom St, Ste 506, SF. 476-6430.

Third World People with AIDS/ARC meet in Oakl. Info: AIDS Project of the Eastbay (510) 420-8181

SF Kaiser Permanente Med Ctr offers HIV + groups (for gay men, for non-gay men & women); ARC groups (for gay men, for women & non-gay men); groups for parents whose children have AIDS; for caretakers (lovers, spouses, friends & others) of people with AIDS/ARC; & for those grieving after losing someone to AIDS. Also offers HIV forums on a variety of issues. Free, open to all Kaiser members, their families & friends.

Kaiser Oakland offers drop-in groups dealing with AIDS/HIV issues. Call Marsha Blachman, LCSW (510) 596-6305. For info on ongoing, closed support groups call Lee Horzempa, LCSW (510) 596-6344; for info on HIV Education forums call Joe De Milia 596-6848.

Kaiser Movement & Exercise: ongoing 10-session, non-intensive therapeutic movement & exercise class for people with AIDS/HIV & other immunodeficiecies, spons by CCCATF & Kaiser Permanente. Wed 3-4 pm, $10/10 wks. Stanwell Bldg, 1634 Newell Ave, Walnut Creek. Drop in OK ($2/session). Info: (510) 943-2771.

Kaiser Patients Advocacy Union (KPAU): consumer activist group assists HIV-positive Kaiser patients, family & friends who are having problems with medical care & services at Kaiser. Newsletter, mtgs, confidential hotline, & lobbying—call 621-3409.

Gazebo at Davies Medical Ctr: an educational ctr for PWAs & HIVers. Get help interpreting lab work; info on clinical trials; nutrition, breathing & body awareness; legal advise (wills, living trusts, power of attorney) & more. For info & calendar of events call 565-6369, Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm. Castro & Duboce Sts, SF.

SF AIDS Foundation Client Services Dept provides a variety of direct services for persons with AIDS & ARC: financial benefits counseling, info & referral, advocacy, women's & people of color services, emergency housing, food bank & more. For info call 864-5855.

Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network: counseling & in-home care for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Also support groups. Info: Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, POB 1599, Guerneville, CA 95446; or call (707) 887-1581.

The AIDS/ARC Blood Fund for people with AIDS is available by calling the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Demo Club's Blood Fund Coordinator, 863-6761.

Free Chiropractic Clinic for people with AIDS. Info: 282-4622.

Project Open Hand delivers hot meals & groceries to people with AIDS or disabling HIV disease in SF, Oakl & Berk. Food Bank at Church & Duboce, SF, provides groceries only. No one refused service because of inability to pay. A letter of diagnosis/referral is all that's necesssary to receive service. Info: (415) 558-0600 or (510) 548-8909.

The Family Link provides housing for friends & family of people with AIDS who are visiting from outside the Bay Area. Info: 346-0770.

ARIS Project: emotional, practical wkly support groups for people w/AIDS, ARC, HIV pos., & their loved ones. Also volunteer training. Call (408) 370-3272.

Contra Costa County AIDS Program: County government program. Offers community support groups & education. 597 Center Ave, Ste 200, Martinez, CA 94553. For info or to volunteer: (510) 313-6770.

Contra Costa County AIDS Task Force: Offers emotional & practical support to people with AIDS/ARC, their families & loved ones. Support groups, outreach, education. Info: (510) 932-AIDS. 2326 Boulevard Circle, Walnut Creek, 94595-1153.

San Mateo County AIDS Project: spons by the Dept of Health Services. Info: AIDS Project Coordinator 573-2588.

AIDS Ministry of MCC-SF: provides support to persons with AIDS & other life-threatening & chronic illnesses, their family & friends. Support groups, monthly potlucks dinners, healing services, spiritually-based training for caretakers & more. Info: 863-4434. 150 Eureka St, SF.

PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support) provides direct services so people with AIDS/ARC can keep their pets. Also places pets in foster & permanent homes as needed. Info: 824-4040.

SHARE (Special Human & Animal Relationships) program of Marin Humane Society offers services to Marin County PWAs with pets. Info: 883-4621.

The Godfather Service Fund: provides care packages (toiletry, bathrobes, slippers & teddy bear) to people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in 12 SF hospitals. To volunteer or make contributions call 565-4433 or write 584 Castro St #225, SF 94114.

The Rest Stop Support Center is a place for and by people with AIDS/ARC/HIV+, and their friends. Drop-in for some coffee & conversation. Ctr sponsors attitudinal healing support groups & activities. Art wkshops, social gatherings & more. For group mtg times & other info call 621-REST. All events are free.

Shanti Project offers emotional, practical & residential support to people with AIDS, their friends, families & loved ones. 525 Howard St, SF. PWA Support Groups: daytime—Tues, Thurs, Fri; eves—Tues, Wed, Thurs. Friends, Family & Lovers Support Group: Wed & Thurs eves; Coping with Loss & Grief Support Group—Thurs eve. For info/location, or to volunteer as an emotional or practical support counselor (training provided) call 777-CARE.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services offers 1-1 & group emotional support for persons with AIDS & ARC, their families & significant others. Also info/referrals; case management/coordination & attendant care services. Extensive volunteer activities available. Info: 572-9702.

AIDS Interfaith Support Committee of Sonoma County: persons of any faith tradition welcome (707) 762-0107.

AIDS Interfaith Network of the Eastbay: monthly healing services. 2nd Sun, 3 pm, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 3755 13th St at Park, Oakl. Info: (510) 523-5011.

AIDS Interfaith of Marin: Diverse group of clergly & spiritual seekers who serve persons with AIDS, their families, friends, loved ones & caregivers. Info: Rev Dave Martin 457-1129 or write to 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, #12, San Anselmo, 94960.

St Dominic's AIDS/ARC/HIV+ Support Group meets alternate Tues eves at 7:30 pm at St Dominic's Parish Priory, 2390 Bush St, SF. Everyone welcome! Info: 567-7824.

The Center: provides compassionate support services for perople with AIDS/ARC/HIV & their caregivers in Alameda County. Day Center (meals, housing referrals, therapeutic massage, social activities, laundry & shower facilities, support group & van transportation); Counseling (advocacy, referrals, in-depth psychotherapy); Volunteer Services (provide assistance with cooking, cleaning, shopping, transportation, etc); Food Bank (groceries & nutritional supplements). 3421 ML King Jr. Way, Oakland 94609. Info: (510) 655-3435.

Van Transportation Program for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV in Alameda County. Transport to & from healthcare appts. Info: The Center (510) 655-3435.

Interreligious Coalition on AIDS, a network of AIDS caregivers from the SF religious community, offers a directory of AIDS-sensitive clergy from a diverse range of religious traditions and ethnic backgrounds. Info: Bob Nelson 558-7066.

Kairos House: resource ctr in the Castro for caregivers of those affected by the AIDS epidemic. Helps caregivers deal with emotional issues. Gives guidance in caring for one's own mind, body & spirit. Support groups, wkshops, social activities, information sharing, counseling. Info: 861-0877.

Multiple Loss Support Group spons by Kairos House. 6-wk group meets Mon, 7:30-9 pm. For gay men who have experienced multiple losses during the epidemic. Facilitated by Paul Shearer, LCSW. Info/reg: 861-0877.

Day Group for Caregivers spons by Kairos House: Wed, noon-1:30 pm. 8-wk group for professional & non-professional caregivers. Facilitated by Steve Galper, ACSW. Info/res: 861-0877.

Immune Enhancement Program offers low-cost research and treatment programs for AIDS/ARC & asymptomatic HIV+ persons using Chinese herbs in tablet forms. Program is directed by Michael Young and run in cooperation with the Institute for Traditional Medicine, Portland, Oregon. Program includes T-cell assays, monthly acupuncture sessions, herbal consults, and all herbal tablets needed. Low-cost, $190, made possible by grants. 3450 16th St, SF. Info: 252-8711.

AIDS Project of the East Bay sponsors support groups throughout the Bay Area for people with AIDS/ARC. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Parents Support Group: for parents of children living with AIDS/ARC. Open to parents with children of any age, facilitated by two parents of a person with AIDS. Issues that arise for parents can be difficult to deal with alone; come talk to other parents who've been there. Oakland location. Spons by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Parents & Family Support Group: wkly drop-in group gives support to families of origin of people with AIDS. Wed 7-9 pm at Coming Home Hospice, 115 Diamond St, SF. Spons by Visiting Nurses & Hospice of SF. Info: Gail Bigelow 861-8705.

Lovers, Friends, & Family of People with AIDS/ARC Group meets in Berkeley. Mon 6-8 pm. Info: AIDS Project of the East Bay (510) 834-8181.

Project Inform: Provides info on available treatments for HIV/AIDS (both experimental & FDA-approved), and conducts advocacy work on public policy issues affecting treatment access. Services include national toll-free hotline; fact sheets & bulletins; and more. 1965 Market St, Ste 220, SF 94103. Call (415) 558-9051 or (800) 334-7422.

Treatment Action Network (TAN): grass-roots advocacy group launched by Project Inform. TAN is a nat'l network of activists who contact elected officials, govt administrators & drug companies to lobby for critical HIV treatment & research issues. For more info & action updates, call (415) 558-9051 in SF or (800) 334-7422 in Calif, (800) 822-7422 elsewhere in the US.

SF Public Library for the Blind & Print Handicapped offers audio tapes & records to SF residents who can't read print due to physical illness or disability. Unabridged reading material & the equipment needed to play it provided free. All exchanges can be done by mail. Info: 558-5035.

Couples Group for people with AIDS & their partners. Deal with improving communication, problem-solving & other relationship issues. 6 wk groups start every other month. For info call AIDS Health Project 476-6430

Couples Support Group spons by Shanti Project. A group for couples where one or more partners has AIDS. Info: 777-CARE.

Berkeley HIV+ Support Group: free, confidential, professionally-facilitated group meets wkly in eves. Limited membership. Low-cost individual counseling also available for PWA/ARC/HIV-positive. Info: Pacific Ctr (510) 841-6224.

HIV-positive/ AIDS Support Groups spons by Project Eden. Groups for PWAs, HIV-positive people, their lovers, friends & families. A safe place to share feelings. Mon & Wed. Info: (510) 887-0566.

HIV Positive Veterans: support group for vets in any stage of HIV infection. Monday eves, free. Vet's Ctr, nr 19th St BART, Oakland. Info: Mike Rankin (510) 273-7331.

San Joaquin AIDS Foundation: 4410 North Pershing Ave, Ste C-5, Stockton. PO Box 8277, Stockton, CA 95208. (209) 476-8533. 1st & 3rd Mon of each month: "Gather Round" support group for the HIV+, persons with AIDS/ARC; 6:30-8 pm at SJAF office. 2nd & 4th Tues: "Hand to Hand" support group for SJAF volunteers, 7 pm at SJAF office. Every Wed: "Stockton Connection" gay rap group discusses safe sex, AIDS, health issues & lifestyle management.

Home Care Wkshops: 17-hr wkshops offered by Home Care Companions, a nonprofit organization. For friends/family taking care of HIV patients in the home. Expand your knowledge of home nursing, social services, legal, medical & psychological issues. Info: 824-3269.

Men's Couples Group: focus on the stress of coping with a partners' illness or anxieties. Mon eves, 7:30-9 pm, free. Spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. Info: (510) 834-8181.

Lovers, Family & Friends of People

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with AIDS/ARC. Operation Concern's AIDS Family Project offers individual, couple & family counseling; plus support groups for the loved ones of people with AIDS/ARC. Info: 626-7000.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel: assists persons with AIDS, ARC or serious HIV infection on a wide range of legal problems, including wills & powers of attorney, housing difficulties, government benefits, employment programs & other issues. Services are free or reduced fee. Call 291-5454.

Insurance/Employee Benefits Legal Clinic for people with HIV infection. Free 45 min consultation with a lawyer to address your insurance questions or problems. Every Thurs, 6:15-8:30 pm. Call the AIDS Legal Referral Panel for an appointment: 291-5454.

AIDS Legal Services for people with AIDS or ARC or who are HIV positive in Santa Clara County. Help preparing wills & power of attorney. Free or SL fee services. Spons by Santa Clara County Bar Assoc Law Foundation. Info: (408) 293-3135.

Shanti Project Residences: Shanti provides low-cost, longterm housing to people with AIDS. Each of 12 residence houses are home to 3-6 people. Private bedrooms, all other living spaces shared. Resident Advocates assist with home health care, transportation, medical intervention of social services. Residents pay ¼ of their monthly income as rent. For info on renting housing or to make a donation: Shanti Residence Care rogram 777-CARE.

Peter Claver Community offers housing to persons with AIDS or ARC who are homeless or unable to secure stable housing. Info: 563-9228. Spons by Catholic Charities AIDS/ARC program.

JFCS AIDS Project: Jewish Family & Childrens' Service offers services to Jewish people with AIDS & ARC, their loved ones & families: counseling, case management, PWA/PWARC support group looking at illness in a Jewish context, emergency financial assistance, meal delivery, practical support volunteers, & support for out-of-town family members. Also speakers' bureau. Coordinator: Jody Reiss 561-1241. 1600 Scott St, SF 94115.

Emergency Health Fund spons by Catholic Charities: provides funds for PWAS/PWARC with incomes of less than $1000/month, to help in emergency situations. Info: 864-7400, ask for the AIDS/ARC Division.

GAPA Community HIV Project: Spons by the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, this group provides emotional & pratical support, including counseling, housekeeping, shopping, hospital & home visits, running errands, and preparing special meals. For more info contact Lori Lee 575-3939.

Group for Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men—Thurs 7:30-9 pm. Spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Info: 554-9760.

Drop-In Group on AIDS/HIV for Asian and Pacific Islander Men. Free. Find out about HIV testing, what puts you at risk, health monitoring, early intervention, HIV treatment, negotiating relationships and safer sex. Group & invidual consultations are available. Tues & Thurs 6-8 pm, Health Center #1, 3850 17th St btwn Sanchez & Noe, SF. Info: GAPA Community HIV Project 575-3939, Filipino Task Force on AIDS 703-9880, Japanese American AIDS Project 563-0553.

Diablo Valley AIDS Ctr: the only drop-in center for people with AIDS in Contra Costa County. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm. Info: (510) 686-DVAC or write PO Box 139, Concord CA 94522.

The Healing Circle: safe, supportive space for anyone on a path of self-healing & love. Large group of about 100 meets Thurs eves, 8-10 pm at 60 Brady St, (one block up from Market/Gough), SF. Use sharing, singing, meditation, visualization, hugging & laughter to create a powerful experience of love & support. Info: Bill 864-6638.

Food for Thought: AIDS food program for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Free groceries, sundries. For info, or to volunteer or donate, write PO Box 1357, Guerneville, CA 95446 or call (707) 887-1647.

Gay Rescue Mission operates drop-in ctr/soup kitchen for people with AIDS or HIV or who are in high-risk groups. Also Twelve Step programs, emergency food, clothing & care. Info: 863-4882.

HIV Negative Support Groups: testing negative is great, but can present problems of its own. Some become so fearful that they give up all sex; others are others are overwhelmed by the pain of watching their friends & lovers die. Get support to deal with "survivor guilt" and others issues surrounding testing negative. Reply with name, address & phone number to Groups, c/o Pierre, PO Box 0884, SF CA 94143-0884. All replies are confidential.

Soul Ventures: a social/networking service supporting the Bay Area HIV/PWA community. Includes dating service & social events. For free brochure & other info call 543-2520.

The Living Room (Revival Inc): a social club for people with AIDS, ARC & HIV+ & for all who are concerned & care. Not a support group, not a bar, but an alternate social setting for those seeking a quality atmosphere. Wheelchair Accessible. 4035 18th St at Castro (next to Hot 'n Hunky). Call 252-1150 for hours & other info.

Sumi Ink Paintings and Etchings by Beth Katz.

Community Spirit Art Program (CSAP): a grassroots group centered in the lesbian & gay community. Presents art exhibits, performances & public symposiums centering on the theme of art as a healing resource during the AIDS crisis. For info on current activites contact CSAP, Box 42, 2370 Market St, SF 94114.

STOP AIDS Mtgs for gay & bisexual men. Meet 12-15 other guys for a one-time, free, informal mtg to talk about safe sex (whether you're a beginner or have lots of experience), coping with the epidemic, & what you can do to help end it. Evenings & wkend mtgs. Call Randy or Buck at STOP AIDS Project for reg/info: 621-7177.

Healing Alternatives Foundation (HAF) maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club offers substantial savings on products aimed at improving the health of PWAs/HIV+, including vitamins, minerals, herbals and more. Payment accepted thru AIDS Emergency Fund & Catholic Charities. Volunteers receive addt'l discounts on products. Hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm, Sat noon-5 pm. 1748 Market St at Valencia, SF. Info: 626-2316.

Lesbians Living with HIV Concerns: Safe place to meet weekly for ongoing support. Drop-in. Facilitated by Susan B. Foster, MA. 5 pm, Saturdays. Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St #201, SF. Info: 565-7667.

African-American Men with AIDS/ARC/HIV: support group: emotional support, benefits counseling, education & info. Mon at 6:30 pm. SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. Info: 864-5855.

American Indian AIDS Institute: Provides education & prevention as well as case management & practical support services for HIV + American Indians. Referrals are welcome. One-on-one mental health services available. 333 Valencia St #200, SF 94103. Call 626-7639.

AIDS-Vision Loss Support Group: ongoing, wkly group open to anyone with AIDS-related sight loss. Focus of group is on how to cope with and adapt to lowered vision while living with HIV. Bi-weekly mtgs, 1-2:30 pm at Rose Resnick Ctr for the Blind & Visually Impaired, 1299 Bush St at Larkin, SF. Transportation available, call 441-1980 for details.

In-Home Counseling Center provides counseling on a donation basis for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV. Info: 931-6151.

Federal Benefits Seminars: twice-monthly seminar spons by the Client Services Dept of SF AIDS Foundation, for federal employees with AIDS or ARC. Focus is on the benefits package available to federal employees who are currently employed, as well as those considering separation. The hour-long seminar is held 3rd Thurs of the month at 11 am & 4th Thurs at 5 pm, and is led by a rep from the Dept of Health & Human Services. At SF AIDS Fdn Client Services Office, 25 Van Ness Ave, SF. 6th floor. Info/res: call the on-duty social worker 864-5855, pre-reg by phone is required.

Free Tax Assistance to Persons with AIDS & ARC, offered by SF AIDS Foundation. Trained volunteers from TAX AID program help you with your 1989 federal & state tax returns. To qualify an individual must have earned $16,000 or less, with no more than $2,000 for each family member. For info call 864-5855 and ask for the on-duty social worker.

Tai Chi Workout: One hour of slow, simple exercises based on the Chinese Tai Chi Chuan movements. Relaxing, stress-reducing & invigorating. Supportive, no-push atmosphere. Meets Mon & Wed, 5:30-6:30 pm, 50 Oak St nr Van Ness & Market, SF. Free to HIV+ people. Info: 255-0265.

Services for deaf & hearing impaired people infected with HIV: Offered by the UCSF Center on Deafness (UCCD) & the Hearing Society. Mental health services, hearing aid & decoding equipment loans, and more. Call Florrie Burke at the Center on Deafness, 476-4980 (voice), 476-7600 (TDD) or Jerry Friedman at the Hearing Society, 863-4710 (voice), 863-2550 (TDD).

► ADDICTION RECOVERY

Iris Project (division of the Women's Institute for Mental Health) provides help for women wanting to achieve & maintain sobriety; and is one of the few agencies providing services specifically for lesbians. Groups include: early, middle & ongoing recovery; women of color; HIV + lesbians; lesbian relationships in later recovery; & an education group. Individual counseling provided. For info/intake appt call 864-2364 (for middle or later recovery groups) or drop in at orientation (Mon-Thurs at 3 pm) for early recovery group & individual counseling. 333 Valencia St, SF. Ste 222.

Women's Alcoholism Ctr provides residential, outpatient & educational services for women, children & families. 2261 Bryant St, SF. Info: 282-8900.

Smith House detox center for women. Six-bed, non-medical alcoholic detox facility designed by women for women, spons by Haight Ashbury Free Clinics. Info: 387-0244

Orchid Women's Recovery Ctr: 12-bed, residential, peer-oriented, alcohol program for women, and women with children (ages 2-12). Services include women's issues, family & alumni groups, recovery & re-entry planning, alcohol-related education, follow-up-groups and more. 1342 E 27th St, SF. Info: 535-0611.

GROW (Gay & Recovering Our Worth), a program of Archway/San Mateo: provides drug & alcohol counseling to San Mateo's gay male community. Info: 341-0964.

Mills-Peninsula Hospital Chemical Dependency Ctr, largest drug & alcohol outpatient treatment ctr in the Bay Area, offers specialized lesbian & gay treatment services. 12-week, medically-supervised individual treatment program. Confidential. Two blocks from BART in Daly City. Info: 696-5544.

Acceptance Place provides residential drug & alcohol treatment for gay men. 673 San Jose, SF. Info: 695-1708.

Baker New Place provides residential drug & alcohol treatment for men & women who are HIV positive. 1375 Grove St, SF. Info: 346-6193.

HIV Dual Diagnosis Program offered by Operation Concern, see AIDS Resources for details.

Secular Organizations for Sobriety (SOS), alternative grassroots support group for recovering alcoholics & addicts. SOS appeals especially to persons who may be uncomfortable with the "Higher-Power" concepts of more traditional religious or 12-Step groups. Info: SF—255-1622, EB—534-8638), No Calif—332-1418.

AJIRA (Addicted Jews in Recovery Anonymous). Wkly mtgs for AA, NA & OA members at SF Jewish Community Ctr, 3200 California St, SF. For times & other info: Claire Silver 346-6040 ext 240.

STOP at SF General Hospital: The Stimulant Treatment Outpatient Program offers help for people with cocaine dependencies. Nonjudgemental treatment includes five-days-a-week group counseling. 12-week commitment required. Program includes the optional use of medication as part of a research project exploring the use of medication to reduce cocaine cravings & use. Call 821-8616 for info. First-time & longterm users are both eligible.

Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous-SF: see Incest & Battery.

Self-Help Food Group for Women: More depth than Weight Watchers, more commitment than OA. Support to work your way on your food issues. Not a diet group, not an anti-diet group. Info: 826-9423.

Men's Overeaters Anon Mtg: every Wednesday. For info on OA meetings for gay/lesbians & others call OA Hotline: 776-1457.

Drop-in Group for gay men with substance abuse issues. Thurs eves 7-8 pm. All gay men welcome. Info, support & referral regarding chemical dependency. Spons by Operation Concern. 1853 Market, SF. Info: 626-7000.

Fundamentalists Anonymous support group: explore the experience of having once been a fundamentalist Christian with others who've been there, too. Call 832-2334.

Quit Smoking Clinic: 8-session courses for smokers who are serious about quitting. Led by ex-smokers. $35. Limited enrollment. Spons by SF Dept of Public Health. Info/res: 554-9763.

Gay Men's Recovery Program incorporating education, intensive group work & socializing. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

Men's Sexual Addiction 12-Step Group (SLAA) at the Parsonage. Focus on recovery and fellowship. Wed at 8 pm. Free. 555A Castro St, SF.

Men Overcoming Sexual Compulsion: Ongoing self-help group meets weekly in SF & Eastbay. 16-wk commitment required. Info: Jay (510) 547-8439.

Lesbian Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous 12-Step meeting meets every Mon at 6:30 pm, Dolores Street Community Center, 208 Dolores St, SF. 1st door on left.

Fem-Centered Lesbians in Recovery meets monthly for support and fun. Call 863-8651 for location & other info.

For More Listings under this category, see the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under the **"Recovery/Addiction Therapy/Support Groups"** heading.

► ARCHIVES

The Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California collects, preserves & disseminates materials related to local gay & lesbian experience. Also sponsors public programs & wkshops on lesbian/gay history. 2940 16th St, SF. Info: 626-0980, or write: GLHSNC, PO Box 42126, SF, 94142. Hrs: Wed 6-9 pm, Sat 2-5 pm, you must call ahead before coming to Archives.

Lesbian & Gay Books & Magazines available at the Eureka Valley Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St, SF. 3-wk loan. Hrs: Mon, Thurs,

Fri 1-6 pm; Tues 10 am-6 pm; Wed 1-9 pm. Donations of lesbian & gay material, bequests or checks payable to the Gay & Lesbian Collection (SFPLGLC) are very welcome (and tax deductible). Info: 554-9445.

Documentation of AIDS Issues & Research (DAIR) maintains a collection of clippings from magazines, newspapers, & other sources on AIDS & related subjects, from the 70s to the present. Hrs: 11:30 am-4 pm Sat, and by appt. Info: 552-1665.

► CALL FOR ENTRIES

Pat Bond Memorial Old Dyke Award: Pat Bond, beloved lesbian actress/comedian wh brough to life Gertrude Stein & Lorena Hickok, died Christmas Eve, 1990. The Pat Bond Memorial Old Dyke Award has been established to honor older lesbians. Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) and the Pat Bond Committee seeks nominations of lesbians over 60 whose contributions to the community have not been sufficiently acknowledged. Nominees must also live in SF, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa, Sonoma, San Mateo or Santa Clara county; and be "out" lesbians, age 60 or over. Three $200 awards will be given. For forms/info write GLOE, 1853 Market St, SF 94103 or call Pat Durham, 626-7000. Deadline: 1/15/92.

Lesbian Fiction Contest: 2nd Annual Spinsters Book Company contest. $1000 prize. Quality, well-crafted fiction focusing on the lives of lesbians sought. Submissions must be postmarked no earlier than 1/2 and no later than 2/28. For contest rules write to: Spinsters Book Co, PO Box 410687, SF CA 94141. No phone calls.

Still Indivisible: The editors of *Indivisible: New Short Fiction by West Coast Gay & Lesbian Writers* seek submissions for a second volume of this successful anthology. Literary short fiction of the highest quality that refelcts the diversity of the West Coast in terms of gender, culture, politics & longitude are sought. Work by African American, Latino/a, Asian American and Native American writers is especially encouraged. Stories need not be gay or lesbian-themed, but should be excellently-written, and not published previously or under consideration elsewhere. Send 2 copies of no more than 3 stories, typed, double-spaced on 8½ × 11 white paper. Include a brief bio, and send SASE for a response. Send to: Terry Wolverton, 3359 Garden Ave, LA 90039. Deadline: 2/1.

Sex Cabaret: David Steinberg & Mark I. Chester, artists interested in sexual art, seek submissions & proposals of art that hits the crossroads of sex, art and theater for an evening series of pansexual multi-disciplinary art including readings, prose, poetry, theater, performance art and sex-related slideshows of artwork. Info: Mark 621-6294 or write POB 422501, SF 94142.

Theatre Rhinoceros is accepting submissions for a new theatre piece exploring gay & lesbian weddings. The focus of the piece is on the diverse ways gays choose to commemorate their unions, as opposed to their straight counterparts. Short scenes, monologues & songs exploring the subject from different angles are sought. The project is directed by Paul Sagan and will be workshopped in the Studio Theatre in spring of 1992. Send submissions to: Theatre Rhinoceros, The Wedding Project, 2926 16th St, SF CA 94103. For more info contact Doug Holsclaw 552-4100.

1st Annual West Coast Lesbians Festival, to be held 6/5-7, seeks workshop participants, craftswomen & general festival workers for this Malibu festival. For details call (510) 763-9228 or write: 279 Lester Ave #3, Oakl CA 94606.

► FUN & GAMES

Victorian & Edwardian Pacific Heights Walk. Guided walking tour of the eastern Pacific Heights neighborhood. See surviving Victorian & pre-WWI era mansions, elaborate family homes, smaller row houses. 2-hr tour, routes change frequently. Guides stress various aspects of neighborhood. Sun, 12:30 pm. $3 gen'l, $1 srs & kids under 12. Spons by Heritage, the Foundation for SF's Architectural Heritage. Info: 441-3000.

Haas-Lilienthal House Tours: noon-3:15 pm Wed, 11 am-4:15 pm Sun. Docent-led tours. The House has stood on Franklin Street since 1886. $4 gen'l, $2 srs & kids 12 & under. Info: 441-3004.

UC Botanical Gardens: University of California-Berkeley Botanical Gardens feature 33 acres of native & exotic plants in educational & naturalized displays. Open daily, 9 am-4:45 pm. Closed Christmas Day. Free admission, free garden tours weekends at 1 pm. Centennial Drive above the UC Berkeley campus. Info: (510) 642-3343.

Lesbian Games Group: monthly-ish chem-free games group meets for Pictionary, Perquacky, Outburst, Boggle & more. Info/location: 526-2924.

► HEALTH

PAP Tests at City Clinic: also diagnosis, treatment & counseling, for vaginitis conditions, enteric diseases. Screening & referral for AIDS. Bilingual (Spanish) staff available. Confidential, low cost services. 356 7th St, SF. Info: 864-8100.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Ctr: low-cost, nonprofit clinic. Offers special services for people with HIV, fertility program for women & men who are trying to conceive. Also offers Chinese & American herbal preparations. Office hrs: Tues-Fri, noon-6 pm. Info: 861-4964.

American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine: professional teaching clinic offers Chinese herbal medicine, acupuncture, tui-na (Chinese physio-massage) & Chinese nutritional counseling. SL fee. MediCal accepted. 450 Connecticut St at 20th (on Potrero Hill), SF. Info: 282-9603.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Sensitive primary health care for women by women, with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include: gen'l medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info (safe sex kits for women available). WA. SL. 1748 Market St nr Valencia, SF. Ste 201. Info/appt: 565-7667.

Lesbian Clinic of the Berkeley Women's Health Collective provides personal, affordable health care by lesbian practitioners. Gen'l medicine & chiropratic care to evaluate health needs. Gynecological, gen'l medical & mental health services available. Also feminist therapy referrals. Call for appt: 843-6194. WA.

Women's Cancer Resource Ctr: info, support, resource & advocacy ctr for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & practitioners. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal wkshops & more. For information on groups & programs offered call 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun 6-8 pm. HIV Antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 & over, every Sun, 6-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Berkeley Free Clinic offers free gen'l health, dental, counseling & information services, plus referrals. Also has women's health clinic by & for women. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 548-2570 (non-voice TDD 548-8238).

Planetree Health Resource Ctr: nonprofit ctr provides a place to go when you need more info about health or medical concerns. Get up-to-date medical info to assist you in making informed choices about your health. Ctr maintains extensive consumer health library, current medical lit clippings & health bookstore. Also support groups, health information service by mail, and more. 2040 Webster St, SF. Info: 923-3680.

Native American Health Ctr: 56 Julian Ave, SF; 3123 East 14th St, Oakland. Offers a range of physical and mental health care services to the community. SF Info: Administration, 621-8054; Dental, 621-8056; Medical/Perinatal, 621-8051; WIC, 621-7574. Eastbay Info: Administration, 261-0524; Dental 436-0455; Medical/Perinatal, 261-1962; WIC, 436-6837; Family & Child Guidance Clinic, 532-2933; Youth Empowerment, 261-8943.

► HOBBIES

Women's Reading Group: small, informal group of women who meet bimonthly to discuss books by women authors. Info: Jill 255-7809.

Women's Reading Group for Women Over 40: Meet to read feminist novels, poetry, etc. SF location. Info: Alana 824-6169.

Eastbay Women's Reading Group: Small, informal group meets 3rd Wed of each month. Call 654-7435 for info/location.

Women, Books & Brunch Group: Meets once a month for brunch—come eat good food, meet new women, discuss books by your favorite women authors. Alternating SF & Eastbay locations. Info: Jennifer 673-6574 or Karen 841-6553.

Hortiphiles: a group for lesbians & gay men who enjoy growing plants. For info write PO Box 31, Palo Alto, 94301 or call 851-1022.

Phoebe Snow Society: int'l organization of gay rail fans. Gay men interested in trains, railroading & travel are welcome to join. Info: (510) 352-0301.

Gay Men's Sketch: informal drawing group for gay men. Provides classical nude modeling by gay male model. Open to all skill levels. 2 min gestures to 40-min drawing. Info/schedule: Mark 621-6294.

Women's Sing-A-Long: monthly mtg, Sat night. Informal, fun, easy. Bring guitar, voice, friends. All women welcome. Info/directions Birch 841-6032.

Sacred Circle Dance for the lesbian/gay community & friends. Folk dancing with emphasis on building community & honoring ourselves. Ancient & contemporary dances from all over the world taught. Beginners welcome! Every 2nd & 4th Wed of the month at SF Dance Theater, 60 Brady, at Market & Gough, SF. 8-10 pm. Info: Laura or Howard 359-0207.

Gay & Lesbian Int'l Folk Dance group meets every Tues in SF's Castro District. Line dances, no partners needed. Beginners welcome! 7:30-8 pm teaching, 8-9:30 pm dancing. Info/location: Jim 585-9487.

Women Country Western Dancers: Meet other 2-steppers in a friendly atmosphere. Social dancing, with free lessons. Every Thurs starting at 7 pm, and Sun 4-9:30 pm, in Walnut Creek. Info: (510) 524-7648.

Girl's Night Out: Country Western Dancing Group meets Fridays for a night of "free popcorn, foxy females, and fabulous fun" at The Corral, 2140 Market St, SF. 9:30 pm. Call (510) 849-1801 for more info.

Classical Music Lovers Group: Listen with others to your favorite CDs, tapes or records. Monthly or bi-weekly mtgs with occasional potlucks. Women & men welcome. Info/location: Ed 922-7108.

Beam-In: The Bay Area Gay Trekkies & Science Fiction Group meets on the 4th Fri of each month at 8 pm for potluck & discussions. All Federation members (male/female) are welcome. Leave name/number at 773-9389 or write Beam-In, 151 Castro St #151, SF 94114-2588 for location & other details.

Genealogy Discussion Group meets monthly for exchange of ideas, information & research leads. Group interests vary from the Azores to Mayflower lineage. All are welcome, from beginners to professionals. Mtgs on the 3rd Sat of each month at 1 pm. For info/location: Larry Burnett 647-0637.

Sheep's Clothing: Informal group of women knitters meet fortnightly in SF to discuss everything from wool to world events over knitting, in the best Ladies' Sewing Circle and Terrorist Society tradition. Info: Gretchen 647-2017.

Bondage Buddies Group: Bi-weekly parties of play & socializing for gay men into bondage, harddicks & fun s/m. Open to top/bottom and experienced/novices. Info: 292-3228.

► HOTLINES AND REFERRALS

Looking for a Job? The Public Interest Employment Service publishes a twice monthly Public Interest Employment Report which lists paid jobs available in progressive nonprofit organizations. The Employment Service is coordinated by a lesbian, and includes info about jobs at a number of lesbian/gay/bisexual/AIDS/HIV-focused organizations. For more info on the Employment Service or to subscribe to the Report, call 565-4695. Services are free to employers.

Disabled Job Seekers Services at Rose Resnick Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired. Employment counseling (focused on interview & self-marketing skills, resume & application writing) and job search support group offered. For details call Linda Greenberg 441-1980.

SF Sex Information Switchboard: Mon-Fri, 3-9 pm. Info and referrals on all aspects of sexuality, for all ages & lifestyles. 621-7300.

Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: Liz at WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.

San Mateo Battered Women's Services offers a 24-hr hotline, individual counseling, support groups, legal assistance & shelter. Call 342-0850.

Call CUAV (Community United Against Violence) to report harassment, hate violence, intimidation by neighbors or workmates. Counseling, advocacy, info & referrals offered. 24-hr hotline: 864-7233.

Gay Domestic Violence: info, peer counseling for gay & bisexual men who batter. Referrals for victims of battering. Spons by MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence). Info: 626-MOVE.

The Lesbian/Gay Switchboard trained volunteers at Pacfic Ctr listen to your concerns. Also Bay Area & nationwide info—from sports, entertainment, rap groups, counseling, AIDS info. Call (510) 841-6224.

SF AIDS Foundation Hotline: (Spanish/English) info & referral to SF & No Calif (800) FOR-AIDS, TDD 864-6606. Tagalog AIDS Hotline: 1-(800) FIL-AIDS (voice/TDD). Hrs: 9 am-9 pm Mon-Fri, 11 am-5 pm Sat & Sun.

AIDS Legal Referral Panel: see AIDS Resources for details. Info: 291-5454.

Poison Control Central: 24 hr service. Over-the-phone help w/ poison emergencies. Call 476-6600.

SF Drug Line: support, info, referrals on drug problems/treatment. Call 752-3400.

Discriminated Against because of your sexual orientation? Contact SF Human Rights Commission, Lesbian/Gay Liaison Unit. There are local laws to protect you. Info: Larry Brinkin 252-2500.

Emergency Food Box Program provides 3-day supply of nutritionally balanced food to those in emergency situations. Info: 621-7575.

Renters: Learn Your Rights! Old St. Mary's Housing Committee offers counseling & special clinics on various housing issues, including evictions, leases, proper procedures, etc. For info/appt: 398-0724.

SF Tenants Union: provides free walk-in or telephone counseling for members, walk-in only counseling for non-members. Call 282-6622 for info. 558 Capp St, SF.

Sentinel Fair Housing: nonprofit agency investigates complaints of housing discrimination & provides comprehensive housing counseling to residents of Northern Alameda County (also referrals for out-of-area persons). If you think you have been discriminated against, call (510) 836-2687 for help/info/referral.

ECHO Housing, a fair housing agency in Alameda, offers services to Alameda residents including deposit & delinquent rent guarantees (contact the Rental Assistance Program, (510) 836-4826 in northern Alameda county, (510) 581-9380 in southern Alameda county), homeseeking program (call (510) 836-4826 countywide).

Senior Information Line: events & services available to seniors in SF, spons by SF Commission on Aging. Newsline: 552-6016. Anyone wishing to add an event should call 626-1033.

Telefaery: Events Line of the Radical Faeries—Call 626-3369 for upcoming events & other info.

Neighbors Driving You Crazy? Community Boards can help—CB is a free, fast & effective dispute resolution service for SF residents with problems: renter/owner disputes, noise, pets, money disputes, family or housemate problems, etc. Call 239-6100 & get relief.

Bay Area Bisexual Speakers Bureau: addresses all topics related to bisexuals. Speakers available for events, conferences, wkshops, etc. Info: 564-2226.

SF Women Against Rape provides individual & group counseling for rape survivors. SFWAR also does advocacy & educational work & holds house meetings where groups of women discuss concerns & fears, & ways to prevent rape. For info: 647-RAPE. 3543 18th St, SF 94110.

Feminist Therapy Referral Project has provided psychotherapy referrals to Eastbay women therapists since 1971: SL fees & insurance are available, for info/appt, call 843-9249.

California Youth Crisis Line provides the following services to young people who have run away from home, & to their parents: crisis intervention counseling, referrals to resource agencies & a neutral message center. For help call 800-843-5200.

Calif Lawyers for the Arts (CLA): nonprofit offers legal info & education to artists. Info: 775-7200.

The Calif Network of Self-Help Centers, spons by the Calif Dept of Mental Health, offers referrals to more than 3,500 free or low-cost support groups statewide (Alcoholics Anonymous, Co-dependents Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, etc). For info call 1-(800) 222-LINK.

► INCEST AND BATTERY

Incest Survivor Groups: both mixed women's groups & those for lesbians in recovery from drugs or alcohol. Phase 1 & 2 groups. Iris Project, 333 Valencia St, Ste 222, SF. Info: 864-2364.

Support Group for Adult Men Who Were Raped/Sexually Assaulted as Teenagers or Adults: Free, 10-wk facilitated groups offered by SF Rape Treatment Center. A safe, non-judgemental place to explore the effects of the abuse & continue the healing pro-

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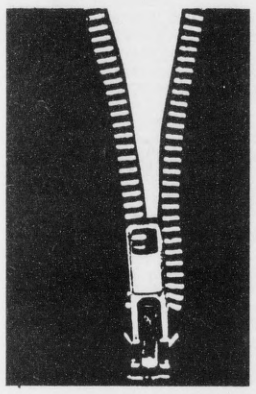

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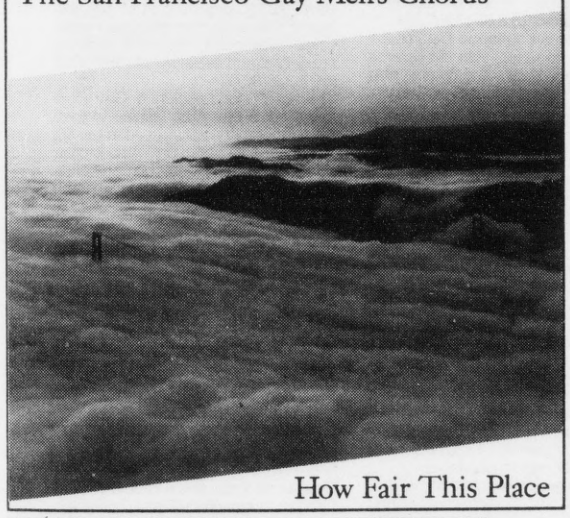

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cess. Led by Susan Wachob, LCSW, extensively-experienced facilitator of groups for male & female survivors of sexual abuse. Individual counseling also available. Info: 821-3222.

Lesbian Partners of Sexual Abuse Survivors: 12-Step Group. Thurs 7:30-8:45 pm at Bethany Methodist Church, Clipper & Sanchez St, SF.

Gay & Bisexual Men Who Batter: Are you feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love the most? MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence) provides assistance & support for change in a safe, confidential place. Info: 626-MOVE.

Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous-SF: 12-step fellowship for batterers, based on the principles of AA. Women-only mtg. Thurs 6:30-7:30 pm, Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF, 150 Eureka St, SF.

Support Group for Men who have been physically and/or emotionally abused in relationships. Led by licensed clinical psychologist, spons by Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project. For info/reg: CUAV 864-3112. Confidentiality guaranteed.

Support Group for Lesbians who are or have been in a battering relationship; SL. Info: Women Inc.: 864-4722.

Formerly Battered Women: Support group for women who have been in a battering relationship, and are now living independently. No fee, childcare available. Info: Rene 863-3315 or Christina 346-0267.

Battered Lesbian Outreach: offered by Sonoma County YWCA Women's Emergency Shelter Program. Info: (707) 546-1234. Call—you are not the only one.

San Mateo Battered Women's Services offers a support group for lesbians who have been emotionally, sexually and/or physically abused by their partners. Free. Call 593-8622 for info.

Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: WOMAN Inc. 864-4722.

La Casa de las Madres provides shelter for battered women & their children. Info: 777-1808.

Rosalie House's offers Women's Jobs Program offers vocational services to battered women & formerly battered women. Counseling, referrals, resume writing & job placement. Free. Call Alma 863-2160 for info.

For more listings under this category, see the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under **"Incest/Battery Therapy/Support Groups".**

► PARENTING & FAMILY RESOURCES

Gay/Lesbian Parenting Group, a support group for lesbians and gay men who have children, or who wish to become parents. Newsletter, potluck socials, outings, discussion groups. Info: Malke (510) 562-1574, or write LGPG, PO Box 410221, SF CA 94141.

Prospective Queer Parents Group for lesbians & gay men seeking coparenting or known donor situations. Call Leland (510) 841-4663 for more information.

Lesbian Moms of Young Children/Babies: Interested in networking in the Eastbay. Come to potluck/brunch—call 540-7171 for details.

Southbay Gay Parents: an organization for gay fathers & lesbian mothers. Meets 3rd Sun of each month in the San Jose area for mutual support & for exploring parenting issues. For information call (408) 293-4525 for more info.

Ever Given Up A Child for Adoption? Ongoing support group for birthmothers: offers support for healing our losses, help in searching for our children. Info: 626-8124.

Adoption Support Groups for adult adoptees, birth parents & adoptive parents. Info: Post-Adoption Ctr for Education & Research (510) 935-6622.

Chain of Life: feminist adoption reform newsletter, supports open records & search & reunification of adoptees & birth families; critiques traditional adoption practices. Edited by adoptee. For backlist/info send SASE to Chain of Life, PO Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707.

NOCIRC (Nat'l Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Ctrs) offers education, information & support about circumcision. Learn why circumcision is physically & emotionally damaging to children. Info: 488-9883.

Lesbian & Gay Parenting Program offered by Lyon Martin Clinic. Offers ongoing seminars, wkshops, small groups & forums for lesbians & gays thinking about parenting, and for lesbian & gay families; including 8-wk "Lesbians Considering Parenthood," and "Gay Men Considering Parenthood," Call Lyon-Martin 565-7674 for info.

Childbirth Education for lesbian families. Small group or individual classes available. Info: Suellen Sleamaker, RN, MHS, Lyon-Martin Parenting Project childbirth educator. Info: 826-4489.

Be sure to check the *SF Bay Times* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under "Parenting" and the Parents & Kidsbox for other parenting services/info.

► PEOPLE OF COLOR

Black & White Men Together Rap/Socials: every Sat at 1350 Waller St nr Masonic, SF. Rap 6:30-9 pm. For info/mtg topic: 826-BWMT. Peter Eggenberger, facilitator; Calvin Lowery, greeter.

United Colors of Queer Nation: Direct action group for queers of color, focus group of Queer Nation. Composed of queer people of color united to bring our common issues to the foreground of discussion & increase our visibility within & outside of the queer community, thru direct action. For info on mtgs & actions call John 821-6108 or 985-7141.

Bisexual People of Color Caucus: resource, support, political action, social group. Info: Lani 821-3534.

Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbian Support Group meets Thursdays, 6:30-8pm; $3 donation (no one turned away for lack of funds); Pacific Ctr, Telegraph & Derby, Berk. Info: Camille Barber; (510) 548-8283.

Zebra Brigade: Social group for Black and white lesbian couples. SF location. Info: Anita or Lorrie 641-5980 or Naomi 821-9972.

African American lesbians 40+: monthly mtg for social activities, potluck, card & board games, theater outings & sports events. Info: Brenda (510) 465-2573.

Ache: Nonprofit community organization for lesbians of African American descent. Produces monthly & annual events; provides community outreach, education & networking; publishes a bimonthly magazine of articles, conference reports, poetry & community events for and about lesbians of African American descent. For more info call 849-2819 or write: Ache, PO Box 6071, Albany, CA 94706.

Asian Lesbian Potluck Brunch Group meets every 4th Sun, 10 am-noon, free. A support group for Asian lesbians 35 yrs & over. Info: (510) 482-0787 or (415) 255-7560.

Third World People with AIDS/ARC group spons by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. See AIDS Resources.

Asian/Pacific HIV-Positive Gay Men's support group offered by GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), see AIDS Resources.

AIDS/HIV Info Group for Asian & Pacific Islander Men. Drop-in, free. See AIDS Resources for details. Spons by GAPA.

Gay Asian Rap Group in SF, spons by Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. Meets every other Wed, 7-9 pm. Info: 282-GAPA.

CASA: Community Alternative Social Assoc. A grassroots social & community action organization for gay latinos & friends. Mtgs held every 2nd Sat of each month at Dolores Street Center, 208 Delores St, SF. 5-6 pm. All are welcome! Call 552-6433 for more info.

Mujero, Bay Area Latina Lesbian Organization, holds gen'l mtgs the 3rd Sat of each month. All Latina lesbians are welcome. Info/location: 648-1291.

GELAAM: Gente Latina de Ambiente. A Latino/Latina lesbian, gay & bisexual organization that participates in the improvement of our community at a political, cultural, social & educational level. Gen'l mtgs every 2nd Sat of each month. Monthly newsletter, "Ambiente." For more info write to GELAAM, 2261 Market St, PO Box 300, SF 94114 or call 626-8318.

Chinese Lesbian Social Group: for info call 826-2455.

Chinese Gay Group meets for monthly potluck and/or varied activities. Also social group for singles. Info: 221-4944.

Asian Pacifica Sisters (APS): an organization by and for Asian and/or Pacific Islander women who are lesbians or bisexuals. APS seeks each woman's own unique experience, whether of Pacific Islander, East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian, or mixed heritage. American-born or immigrant, multilingual or monolingual, physically challenged or able, all are welcome! Call Nancy 864-8812 for more information.

Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual & Korean? Monthly mtgs, discussions, potlucks & special activities offered. Mtgs 1st Sun of each month, 1-3 pm, in SF. Info: Lori 563-8689. Mtgs conducted in English, with some bilingual participants.

Asian & Pacific Islander Gay/Bi Men's Support Group: meets Tues 6:30-8 pm at Pacific Ctr. Gay Asian men of all ages are welcome. Info/res: (510) 841-6224. 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.

Photo by David Maung

The Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie—the Dance Brigade is back, with the holiday extravaganza, Dec. 20-22.

Black Gay & Bisexual Men's Support Group: Drop-in. Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. Wed 8-9:50 pm. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Gay/Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA): group by & for gay men of Asian & Pacific Islander heritages. GAPA seeks to create a positive & visible presence for gay Asian/Pacifics in the SF Bay Area. Gen'l mtgs: every 2nd Sun of the month at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. 6-8 pm. Also bimonthly newsletter "Lavender Godzilla", write to PO Box 421884, SF CA 94142-1884 to subscribe. Info: GAPA Hotline 282-GAPA.

African-American Men dealing with AIDS/ARC/HIV Support Group at SF AIDS Fdn, see AIDS Resources.

African-American Women with Cancer: Support group meets every other Mon 6:30-8 pm at the Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, 3023 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-WCRC or (510) 548-9272 for more information.

Lesbians of Color sobriety support group at Iris Project, see Addiction Recovery.

Motorcycle Club for Black gay women. Info: 1724 Sacramento St, #6, SF 94109.

Artists of Color Open Mike Night at Ohama Cultural Ctr: Every 2nd & 4th Thurs of the month. 7 pm, $5. 4345 Telegraph Ave, Oakl. Info: (510) 658-1868.

Free Mental Health Services for Native Americans, see Therapy Groups for details.

ALBWN & ALGBN: Arab Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Network and Arab Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Network. Offers support for women & men of Arab descent and Middle Eastern ancestry. Activities include monthly potluck dinners, discussion of topics of relevance to the lesbian, gay & bisexual Arab community. Three separate mtgs: a women's mtg (Arab Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Network), a men's mtg, and a mixed mtg where both men & women gather. For information write ALGBN or ALBWN, PO Box 460526, SF 94114.

Asian Lesbian Potluck Brunch group meets every 4th Sunday 10am-noon, free. A support group for Asian lesbians 35 yrs & over. For details call 482-0787 or 255-7560.

► PERFORMANCE ARTS

Mothertongue Feminist Theater Collective welcomes any woman with ideas to share & stories to tell—writing & performing experience not necessary. Info: (510) 848-5966.

Community Spirit Art Program (CSAP), a grassroots group centered in the gay & lesbian community. Presents art exhibitions, performances & public symposiums centering on the theme of art as a healing resource during the AIDS crisis. See AIDS Resources for details.

Community Women's Orchestra: amateur orchestra for women, spons by the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic. Wkly Tues night rehearsals. Orchestra gives 3 concerts each season in Dec, March & June. No audition required, but all musicians must have prior experience playing in an orchestra or other ensemble. String players are always welcome, wind players may join if there's an opening in their section. Conducted by Ann Krinitsky. Info: (510) 428-1350.

Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Ensemble welcomes instrumentalists of every type & ability for fun & creative musical experiences. Join a musically versatile group dedicated to the growth of our members & the community we serve. Rehearsals in the Eastbay. Info: (510) 638-7399.

Jon Sims Ctr for the Performing Arts: "multidiscipinary force for artistic freedom, cultural democracy, and community outreach". Presents music, dance & musical theatre performances, and educational programs. 1519 Mission St, SF. New members are always welcome. JSC is especially interested in making programs accessible to ethnic minorities and people of color. Call 621-5619 for mtg times & other info.

VOICES: Bay Area lesbian choral ensemble covers the musical map, performing everything from madrigals and contemporary music to blues & jazz. For more info or to be on mailing list call 773-9181.

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF invites you to join in making music & having fun. Ability to read music a plus, but not necessary. Rehearsal times & other info: Pat Parr 621-3088.

The Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers encourages the composition of music that conveys the attitudes, ideals & uniqueness of gay & lesbian cultures. Group sponsors 3 annual concerts, plus monthly business & social mtgs (usually in SF) where composers can meet & share their music & ideas. For info/location of next mtg call 681-8008. For brochure/membership application or other info write PO Box 14521, SF CA 94114.

Gay/Lesbian Chamber Music Circle: Meets monthly for dinner, informal performances by group members. Amateur musicians, all levels, welcome. Info: Michael (510) 525-6723, Bob (415) 863-8268.

Jazz Matriarchy: Networking organization for women jazz improvisers in the Bay Area. Call 647-9544 for more info.

STBS, a nonprofit tix agency operated by Performing Arts Services, sells full-price tix in adv & half-price tix day of show. Proceeds benefit Bay Area performing arts. Booth at Union Square, 251 Stockton (btwn Post & Geary) and at One Embarcadero Ctr (street level), SF. Info: 433-STBS.

GAWK (Gay Artists & Writers Kollective). Join rock musicians, singers, writers, cartoonists, comedians & others for eclectic, upbeat, fun socializing. Info: Jon Sugar 731-2424 or write (with SASE) 901 Stanyan St #14, SF 94117.

Lesbian Visual Artists: A promotional & networking organization for lesbian visual artists. LVA follows an activist agenda, promoting visibility. Produces events, newsletter & exhibitions. For info call 821-2975 or write LVA, 3543 18th St #5, SF 94110.

Fat Lip Readers Theatre: political theatre collective of fat, fiesty & diverse women who strut their stuff on stage & video, and in wkshops. Submissions of poetry, prose, stories & analysis with a fat liberation perspective are welcome & respected. Info: PO Box 29963, Oakl 94604; (510) 655-7404.

Queer Guitar Players: Group of women & men of all styles & levels who get together for musical exchange & fun. Banjo players welcome. Info: Paul 826-0801.

► POLITICAL

Queer Nation: Direct action group of queers fighting for our queer rights *now*. Open to all sexual orientations & gender identities. Meets Wed, 7:30 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St at Guerrero, SF. For info on mtgs, emergency activations & future actions call 985-7141.

LABIA (Lesbians & Biwomyn in Action)—focus group of Queer Nation. Lesbian & biwomyn interested in raising consciousness & visibility of lesbian & bisexual issues within & outside of the queer community, thru direct action & education. Multicultural group. Info: 985-7141.

United Colors of Queer Nation: direct action group for queers of color, a focus group of Queer Nation. See People of Color listings for more info.

Queer Nation East Bay works to promote lesbian, gay & bisexual visibility and acceptance throughout the East Bay. For mtg time/location & for upcoming actions, call (510) 464-3072.

Outrage! San Francisco. Direct Action. Call 985-7141 for more information.

The Int'l Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission works to focus world opinion on the oppression of gays & lesbians throughout the world. 540 Castro St, SF 94114. Call 255-8680 for info.

Feminists for Animal Rights welcomes women in working to end all forms of exploitation against animals. For info re newsletter, meetings, events, t-shirt, etc, call (510) 644-1753.

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Defamation (GLAAD) works for fair & diverse coverage of lesbians & gay men, and fights stereotypical portrayals in the print & electronic media. To report a defamation, call 861-4588, 861-4893 (fax) or send photocopies or tapes to GLAAD, 514 Castro St, Ste B, SF 94114. Gen'l mtgs are usually held the 3rd Sun of each month, 7 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. 2nd floor.

BiPol: bisexual, lesbian & gay political action group of the SF Bay Area. Info: write BiPol, 584 Castro St #422, SF 94114 or call 775-1990.

UBIQUITOUS (Uppity Bi Queers United In Their Overtly Unconventional Sexuality): A group of bisexual queers dedicated to promoting bi visibility & understanding within the queer community, working together with lesbian & gay activists in the fight against heterosexism & building a bisexual community. Call Adam 861-7520 or Chrstine 861-0305 for mtg times/places.

Lesbian Agenda for Action: (LAFA) political & social action nonprofit membership organization committed to promoting lesbian visibility. Info: 552-5677.

Lesbian Uprising! A feminist political, educational & cultural group of Bay Area lesbians who envision a return to the radical ideals of the women's liberation movement; who recognize the deep connection between the personal & the political, and seek means to embody those connections in concrete ways. Group defends & empowers women by being visible, participating in street demos, etc. Group also meets twice monthly to discuss exciting feminist literature & theory. Interested? Call Gail 441-6238 or Ann 665-6746 for info/location.

War Tax Resistors Support Gathering: 2nd Sun of each month. Keep your money from funding oppression & destruction. Call 843-9877 for info. Eastbay & SF locations.

Berkeley Women in Black: We mourn Middle East violence & the Israeli occupation. We want negotiations now for a just & lasting peace. Join us: Vigil every Fri, noon-1 pm, at Telegraph & Haste, in front of Cody's Books. Info: Ruth 644-0480. All women welcome.

Veterans CARE (Veterans Council for American Rights & Equality) protests discrimination against lesbians & gays in the military, seeks to allow homosexuals to serve openly in the armed forces. For membership & other info write to Veterans CARE, PO Box 855, Nice, CA 95464-0855 or call Jack (707) 274-1303.

Lavender SIG (Special Interest Group: A national political & support network for fat lesbians, bisexuals and gays, and their allies. Part of NAAFA (Nat'l Assoc to Advance Fat Acceptance), a human rights organization. For info send SASE to Lavender SIG, PO Box 210074, SF 94121-0074.

Int'l Wages for Housework Campaign, Int'l Black Women for Wages for Housework, Wages Due Lesbians, and the US PROStitutes Collective: To connect with these groups, write PO Box 14512, SF 94114 or call 558-9628.

White Lesbians Against Racism: Group provides a peer education forum to confront racial stereotypes & racism in ourselves & in the white community. Group creates space for developing a white racial identity; challenges racial stereotypes thru self-education; makes connections btwn racism, homophobia, classism, sexism & anti-semitism. Info: Yvette 584-5979.

Pallas Athena Network: An open, supportive network for women veterans to discuss issues, experiences, thoughts & ideas with other women who share the common bond of military service. Bimonthly publication, *Pallas Athena*, provides articles of interest to women vets, including letters, fiction, creative work & resource information. All women veterans, regardless of race, creed, religion or sexual orientation, are welcome. A discreet supplement by/for lesbian vets is available. No govt or political affiliation, mailing list confidential. Write: Pallas Athena Network, PO Box 1171-T, New Market, VA 22844.

► PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA): comprised of gay & lesbian businesses, professionals, artisans & individuals throughout the Bay Area. Monthly networking events & more. For membership & event info call (415) 441-3651 or (800) 272-0278. Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 11 am-4 pm.

Brava! For Women in the Arts: multicultural organization of women artists who promote excellence among women in the arts thru professional presentation of established women artists, as well as providing services & assistance to emerging women artists. Info: 641-7657.

GAYLESTA, organization of gay, lesbian & bisxual psychotherapists. Professional networking, internal & external education, and social events. Info: Don (510) 339-8077.

Therapists for Lesbian & Gay Concerns holds Bay Area lesbian women psychotherapists' potluck on the first Sat of each month, 11-1 pm. Also professional networking, member presentations, socializing. Info: Maris Smith (408) 629-6890.

Federal Lesbians & Gays (FLAG) offers support, advice & activities for Federal employees. Mtg 2nd Wed of each month, 6 pm. SF location. Info: 861-8718.

Gay/Lesbian Organization of Videomakers (G/LOV): Monthly meetings for people involved in all aspects of video & film production. Info: Nikos Diaman 775-6143.

► SENIORS

Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) offers various groups (writing, outings, discussion, etc) of interest to lesbians & gay men. For info on groups offered call 626-7000.

Senior Information Line:—see Hotlines & Referrals.

► SOCIAL GROUPS

Girth & Mirth Club of SF meets every Sat. Chubbies meet chasers meet chubbies. For info write: 176-B Page St, SF 94102 or call 24-hr message hotline: 552-1143.

Men's Associated Exchange (MAX) is the largest & most active social group for gay men in the Bay Area, sponsoring over 150 events a year, ranging from community service to sports to educational programs. Info: MAX, 564 Mission St #127, SF 94105.

UCGALA (Univ of Calif Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc). Open to graduates and anyone else who is a friend of the University. Annual membership: $20. For info & to get on mailing list (confidentiality assured), call 267-3150. Monthly social & cultural events.

Cal Poly GALA (Gay & Lesbian Alum-

ni Assoc) provides social & cultural support for lesbian, gay & bisexual students, curricula & activites; and serves the needs alumni & future alumni. Absolute confidentiality assurred. Info: (408) 245-7179.

BFSF (BiFriendly-SF): social group open to bisexuals & bifriendly others. BFSF meets 7 pm Mon at Village Deli, 495 Castro St, SF for dinner & conversation with other bisexuals & friends. For confirmation, other activities/calendar: 753-0687.

Bi-Friendly UC: support group followed by social. Meets Wed eves, UC Berkeley campus. All members of the UC Berkeley/UCSF community are welcome. Info/location: Betsy (510) 845-7441.

Bi-Friendly Eastbay meets 7:30 pm 1st & 3rd Mon of each month, upstairs at the Bison Brewing Co, 2598 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley, for food, drink & conversation. Bisexuals & all bi-friendly people are welcome. Info: Susan (510) 524-0574.

Bi-Friendly South Bay (BFSB) bisexual social group for men, women & bifriendly others in the South Bay/Peninsula area. Meets Mon 7:30 pm. Info/location: Steve (415) 968-5902, Liz (510) 857-1044.

Bi-Friendly Sonoma County: bisexual social/support group for men, women & bifriendly others in Sonoma/North Bay. Info: Colin (707) 823-2990.

Fremont Men Social Group: Potlucks, dinners, hikes, etc; in the Fremont area. For newsletter or other info call (510) 656-1383.

Berkeley Flats Dykes (BFD) meets the last Sun of each month for potluck brunch. Call (510) 644-3302 or (510) 841-6032 for info/location.

Lake Merritt Neighborhood Potluck for lesbians & gays living in the Lake Merritt, Oakland area. Monthly get-togethers, come meet your neighbors! Info: (510) 832-6510.

Tri-City Area Lesbians: (Fremont, Union City, & Newark). Meet your neighbors for informal dinners, socials, etc. Call Beth or Laurie (510) 794-8004.

Eastbay Lesbian Couples Social Group: Meet new couples for potlucks, movies, games, walks, or other mutual interests. Info: (510) 486-0615 or (510) 655-8542.

Couples/SF Bay Area Group provides social, educational & humanitarian forum for gay & lesbian couples. For more info/events calendar, call Sam & Ted 929-8402 or Suzanne & Deborah 355-7710.

Lesbian Lunch Brunch: A clean & sober, nonsmoking social club for single lesbians working in the financial district. Wkly luncheons to connect with other women in recovery. Info: 252-0657.

Women Over 50 Social Group meets every 3rd Sun from 3-5 pm, in Los Gatos. Other events arranged. Info: (408) 354-4397 or (415) 558-8366.

Latin American Lesbian Social Group meets monthly in Eastbay, see People of Color.

CASA (Community Alternative Social Assoc) for gay Latinos & friends, see People of Color.

Chinese lesbian group meets for outing, potlucks, etc, see People of Color.

Chinese gay group meets for potlucks & other varied activities, see People of Color.

Zebra Brigade Social Group for Black & white lesbian couples meets 3rd Sat of each month, alternating btwn SF & Eastbay locations. Call Anita or Lorrie 641-5980.

Soul Ventures social group for the Bay Area HIV + /PWA community, see AIDS Resources for details.

Die naechsten Potluckparty des Deutschen Freundschaftskreisés erfolgt am dritten Freitag des Monats. Alle, die Deutsch sprechen oder Interesse haben sind herzlich Willkommen. Fuer weitere Infos bitte Don unter 329-1438 anrufen.

Russian Group: Ruscophiles with a sincere desire to speak Russian meet for social Russian conversation & potluck on the 2nd Fri of each month, at 8 pm. Leave name & number at 773-9389 or write SF Ruscophiles, 151 Castro St #151, SF 94114-2588 for location & other details. All levels welcome.

Asian Lesbian Potluck Brunch Group, see People of Color.

Bridging the Gap Alliance: Social/political group of deaf, hard of hearing and hearing lesbians. Meets monthly (mtgs in ASL). New signers are welcome! Info: write BGA, PO Box 5669, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Now We've Got The Time: social group for gay men with HIV, see AIDS Resources for info.

Brainy-Artsy Gals: Group for women interested in the arts. Art salons & monthly social gatherings. Info: 824-4401.

► SPIRITUALITY

Shabbat Services with Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish lesbian/gay congregation. Every Fri at 8:15 pm & last Saturday of each month, 10:30 am. 220 Danvers (upper Market), SF. 861-6932.

Jewish Lesbians & Bisexuals & friends meet to celebrate Shabbat, 1st Fri of each month, SF & EB locations. Join us for song, food & Jewish culture—no experience necessary! Jewish women of color and Sephardic women especially welcome. Info: 647-7209.

Feminist Women's Circle meets in SF monthly at the full & new moons to explore the many facets of the Goddess. Also networking & classes. Info: Lupa 751-8918.

Sunday's Women gather to explore the Goddess Movement, network with other spiritual women. Guest speakers. 3rd Sun of each month, Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd, Oakl. $7-10 donation. Spons by Women's Spirituality Forum. Call the Goddess Hotline, (510) 444-7724, for info on current & upcoming events.

Crossroads: Wkly women's ritual & drumming circle with pagan/political focus. Artwork, trance, journeys, singing, music, etc. Previous magical experience preferred. Wed eve mtgs at the Crossroads in Berkeley. Info: (510) (510) 763-5999.

Women's Circle Network: If you are in a women's circle & would like to connect with a community of women's circles contact Emerald at 2124 Kittredge #11, Berkeley 94704. Call (510) 652-6355.

St Marks Lutheran Church Communion: Sun, 9 & 11 am, 1111 O'Farrell at Gough, SF. Info: 928-7770.

Gay Men's Radical Faery Circle comes together every Thurs night at 8 pm. Bring instruments & energy! Info/location: 626-3369.

St Paul's Lutheran Church: worship & Eucharist, Sun, 10 am. 1658 Excelsior Ave, Oakl (just off I-580). Info: 530-6333.

Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministry: Voice & Vision—ministry of advocacy, affirmation & spiritual care. Programs include individual & couples counseling, holy unions, support groups, a ritual group for lesbians, workshops & more. Info: Jeff, Ruth or Phyllis at 553-4026.

Creating Our Sacred Space: monthly spirituality gathering for lesbians exploring feminist spiritual perspectives which honor women's bodies & experiences. Spons by Voice & Vision: Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministry. Info: Phyllis or Ruth 553-4026.

Acceptance: Baptist Bible Study & support group meets Wednesdays, 7:30 pm. Location varies. Everyone is welcome. For info: 843-9705, 626-5034.

American Baptists Concerned: a supportive community of gay/lesbian Baptists & friends. Meets at 5 pm the first Sun of each month for fellowship and a potluck. Everyone is welcome! Also publishes quarterly newsletter, *Voice of the Turtle*. To join mailing list send $10 to ABC, 872 Erie St, Oakl 94610. For mtg & group info: (510) 465-8652.

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church (American Baptist) is an inclusive church welcoming & affirming gay men & lesbians. Worship 10 am Sun at 3534 Lakeshore Ave & Mandana, Oakland. Gay/lesbian group, American Baptists Concerned, meets the first Sun of each month. For more info call (510) 893-2484.

Bethany United Methodist Church: Caring & inclusive congregation, every person is welcome. Church reaches out to the lesbian & gay community. Sun worship at 11 am. 1268 Sanchez St at Clipper, SF. Info: 647-8393.

Montclair Presbyterian Church welcomes gay & lesbian people to worship with us. Church has a coordinator for lesbian & gay concerns, and is active in peace and justice, environmental, community action and global concerns; and AIDS ministries. Worship service uses inclusive language. 10 am worship, 10 am church school & nursery for children. 5101 Thornhill Drive, Oakl. Info: Rev Chuck McClain or Rev Cindy Crowner, (510) 339-1131.

Lutherans Concerned/SF: for lesbian & gay Lutherans, their friends & families. Meets 1st Sun of each month, St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St nr Market, SF. 5:30 pm. All welcome. Info: 956-2069.

Christian Women's Support Group meets 4th Sat of each month. Inclusive language eucharist, potluck, fellowship. Info: Kris Wagner 534-5546, Bonita Palmer 647-8390.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF: Sun worship services: 9 am, 11 am & 7 pm. AIDS ministry (see AIDS Resources), women's & men's groups, children's programming & educational series. Rev Jim Mitulski, pastor. 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 863-4434.

Golden Gate MCC Sun worship services: 12:45 & 7 pm; 11 am bible study. 1600 Clay St, SF. Rev Buddy Trulock, pastor. Lesbian & gay Christians welcome all to enjoy nourishing worship & fellowship of Jesus Christ. Info: 567-9080.

New Life MCC Sun worship service: 1823 9th St at Hearst, Berkeley. 12:30 pm. SIGN. WA. Info: (510) 843-9355.

MCC of San Lorenzo meets at Christ Lutheran Church, 100 Hacienda St at Hathaway, San Lorenzo. Services Sun at 6 pm. Interim pastor: Rev Michael England. Info: (510) 481-9720.

Diablo Valley MCC Sun worship service, 10 am, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Wed worship, 7 pm, followed by lay ministry courses at 8:15 pm. Info: (510) 827-2960.

MCC Santa Rosa meets 11 am at 3632 Airway Dr, Santa Rosa. All lifestyles welcome! Pastor JI Torres. Info: (707) 526-HOPE.

Russian River MCC Sun worship service: Noon, 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. Info: Rev Linda Laster (707) 869-0552.

Evangelicals Concerned-SF: Local chapter of a national organization. EC-SF is a Bible/Christ-centered ecumenical (non-denominational) fellowship & prayer support group for lesbians, gays & non-gay Christians. Group believes that sexual orientation is a gift from God, and seeks to support gay & lesbian persons in the integration of their sexuality & their spirituality. Group spons bible study, healing prayer group, annual retreat & monthly social activities. For info write: EC-SF, PO Box 14052, SF 94114-0052.

Showers of Blessing Full Gospel Cathedral: A pentecostal church for gays & lesbians. 2 pm Sun mtgs. For info/location: Bishop Tony R. White 771-5872.

Hosanna Church of Praise, a Christian church w/a special ministry to the gay & lesbian community. Emphasis on healing ministry, gifts of the Holy Spirit. Support of gay/lesbian causes. 10 am. First United Methodist Church Chapel, 24 N 5th St, downtown San Jose. Info: Rev. F. Randall Hill, (408)293-2437.

Prince of Peace Community Church of San Jose meets 10:30 am at DeFrank Community Ctr, 175 Stockton Ave, San Jose. Emphasis on love, caring & concern for gay/lesbians. Rev Bob Wheatley, pastor; Rev Barbara Martzall, assistant pastor. Info: (408) 298-3548.

Agape Christian Fellowship: Group for lesbian & gay charismatics/pentecostals, promoting spiritual, mental, physical & spiritual wholeness. Meetings: Bible Study Thurs at 7:30 pm, Sunday services at 6:30 pm. Info/location: Pastor Mike Arbuckle 921-3207 or write PO Box 192446, SF 94119-2446.

St Michael's Ecumenical Catholic Church: Pro-gay, independent denomination. Sun services at 10 am, 21956 Russian River Ave, Villa Grande. Info: Bishop Mark Shirilau (707) 865-0119.

Trinity Episcopal Church: traditional liturgy with liberal theology. Inclusive urban parish. Sunday Choral Eucharist, 11 am. 1668 Bush St nr Gough, SF. Rev Robert Cromey, rector. Info: 775-1117.

Integrity SBA: Gay & lesbian Episcopalians & friends, local chapter of an international organization, co-spons lively discussions every Thurs eves, 7-9:30 pm at the Parsonage, 555A Castro St, SF. Info: 552-2909.

Women-in-Integrity: Women's focus Eucharist with potluck supper & socializing following service. Join us for fellowship, singing & a meal. Third Sun of each month at 5:30 pm, St John's Church, 1661 15th St, SF. Integrity is a lesbian & gay affirming community of Episcopalians & friends. Info: 553-5270.

The Parsonage, an Episcopalian ministry at 555 A Castro St, SF, advocates justice for lesbian/gay people, and witnesses to the godliness of gay/lesbian love. Together with Integrity, the assoc of gay/lesbian Episcopalians, the group sponsors programs every Thurs eve at 7 pm. Call 552-2909 for program details, further info.

Integrity/El Camino Real: Episcopal gay & lesbian ministry meets at churches from Palo Alto to Monterey on the 3rd Sun of each month. 5:30 pm service, potluck at 6:15 pm, program & discussion at 7 pm. Jim: (415) 493-1253 or Russ (408) 294-2026.

Affirmation: Gay & lesbian Mormons. Social/support group for Latter-Day Saints, their families & friends. Wkly mtgs. Sun at 7 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Info: 641-4554.

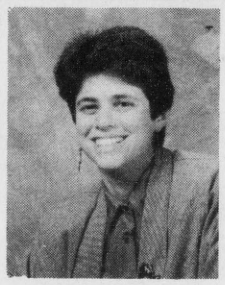
Unitarian Universalists for Lesbian & Gay Concerns of the First Unitarian Church of SF (UULGC/SF) meets 2nd Sun of every month at 12:15 pm, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St, SF. Spons variety of events & social functions for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals & friends. The Unitarian Universalist Church provides union services for lesbian & gay partners, has a significant number of openly gay clergy & a long history of support for lesbian/gay individuals & groups.

Most Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church, 100 Diamond St, SF. Mass: 5 pm Sat, 7 & 10 am Sun, wkdays at 8 am. Info: 863-6259.

GALOC (Gay & Lesbian Outreach Committee) of Most Holy Redeemer Church welcomes lesbians & gay men to MHR parish. Come join us! For info: 863-6259.

Avatar Meher Baba: gay & lesbian followers present meetings, discussion groups, social events. Info: Larry 441-7008.

ChiroMedica



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YOUTH RAP GROUPS

YOUNG MEN'S GROUP
Friday Nights
MCC Church in the Castro
150 Eureka Street
7 - 9:00 pm

YOUNG WOMEN'S GROUP
Monday Nights
The Women's Building
3543 18th Street
7 - 9:00 pm

Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC) sponsors social/recreational activities for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth 23 and under.

L Y R I C

Call **252-6059** for more information about LYRIC.

Women's Cancer Resource Center

A place to gather strength and support for women with cancer, their friends, families and health practitioner.

3023 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley CA 94705 (415) 548-9272

Have a Happy, Healthy New Year!

P.S. New volunteers are always needed!

We Need You!!!
Volunteers needed for outreach, publicity, newsletter, direct services and other exciting activities. Support women's health care! Call to volunteer.

Regular Monthly Events: *Call for dates and times:* Yoga and Relaxation for women with life-threatening and chronic illnesses; Breast Self-Examination; Group discussion with oncology nurse.

Support Groups Currently Taking Place: *Call for dates and times:* **(Note New Groups)** Lesbians with Cancer *(meets in San Francisco);* Lesbian Partners/Friends of Lesbians with Cancer; Drop-in for Women with Cancer; African American Women with Cancer; Daytime Drop-in for Women with Cancer; Friends and Family of People with Cancer; Post-Treatment Support.

All services and events are free. (Donations accepted).
Please help keep our space scent-free.

Lesbians Get Cervical Cancer Too!

An annual pap smear is the best way to detect cervical cancer early! Early detection and treatment greatly increase your chances of survival.

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TEL - 415/565-7667
TDD - 415/252-7499

Peace United Church: Creative Christian community, politically aware, justice-oriented. 50 percent women ministers. Lesbian, gay & straight families are welcome. 5 pm Sundays, Oakland Avenue at Monte Vista in Oaklands. Call (510) 486-0625 for more info.

GLAD Alliance (Gays, Lesbians & Affirming Disciples) of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meets the 3rd Sun of each month, 4-7 pm at University Christian Church, 2401 LeConte Ave, Berkeley. Info: Bill (510) 644-1823 or (510) 652-6036.

The Church of Amron, a metaphysical ministry, holds solstice services, healing circles, classes on yoga, metaphysics, channeling, ritual, affirmations, shaman drumming, & much more. 2254 Van Ness Ave at Vallejo, SF. For info call 775-0227.

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. Post & Mason Sts, SF. An open & affirming church that began ordaining gays in 1972. Services: 9 & 11 am, adult education at 9:45 am. Outstanding music program. Close to public transit, parking at Sutter/Stockton garage. Info: 392-7461.

World Peace/Inner Peace: Intro talks on the transcendental meditation program. Wed 8 pm at 347 Dolores St, SF. Room 231. Free. Also group meditations for practitioners, Wed at 5:30 pm.

Tayu Center, a Fourth Way spiritual school directed by Robert Daniel Ennis, a modern spiritual adept. Study grou meets every Wed eve at 8 pm, at Hartford Street Zen Center, 57 Hartford St, SF. Includes relational (2-person) meditation, reading & discussion of Fourth Way material. Info: (707) 829-9579.

Emerge!, healing journal of Emergence, Int'l, an organization of Christian Scientists supporting lesbians & gay men. For subs/info: PO Box 581, Kentfield, CA 94914 or call 485-1881.

First Church of Religious Science of Oakland's lesbian & gay family meets monthly to celebrate "our powerful lifestyle & consciousness and to expand our understanding of the practical techniques and the empowering teachings of our philosophy... free of dogma or judgements." Info: Robert 832-7120.

Gay Religious Science Practitioner in final stage of formal training offers free scientific mind treatments in loving & non-dogmatic context. Call Robert Lokahi 832-7120.

Golden Gate Institute of Religious Science: An educational outreach ministry of the Independent Church of Religious Science, serving the gay & lesbian community. Classes & credentials offered. Write Rev Jon Lindsay, 36250 Easterday Way, Fremont CA 94536 for more info.

Spiritual Arts Church of Religious Science: Sun, 5 pm at Notre Dame Plaza, 347 Delores St, SF. Room 201. CC available during services. Office Hrs: Mon, Wed & Fri, 9 am-noon at 347 Dolores St, SF. Room 213. Info: 255-8460.

California Miracles Ctr: Well-established course in Miracles ministry in the Upper Market/Castro neighborhood. Sun morning service at 11 am. Principles of Healing Study Group meets every Sun morning at 9:30 am. Classes in ACIM meet at various times throughout the week, with two outreach classes now meeting in Oakland. 2269 Market St, SF. Info: (510) 621-2556.

Gay Clergy Support Group: For gay religious & clergy in the Bay Area. Info: Brother Jonathan 584-1034 8-10 am, or pm.

► SPORTS

Berkeley & Eastbay Athletes interested in becoming involved with the group coordinating the Eastbay's effort for the 1994 Gay Games in New York: Contact Chris (510) 654-9719 for details.

SF Frontrunners is a running club for lesbians & gay men. All levels welcome. Free runs: every Tues at 6:30 pm, Ferry Bldg, Market St & Embarcadero, SF, followed by dinner; Sat at 9 am, Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park, SF, followed by brunch; & every Sun at 9 am at various locations (see Main Calendar), followed by brunch. Come join our walking division at same time & place as Runs. Business mtgs/potlucks 1st Sat of each month (after Run). Info: Marie 921-3697.

Eastbay Frontrunners Club sponsors noncompetitive runs in various Eastbay locations. Runs begin at 9:30 am, and are followed by brunch. Info: Roz (510) 939-3579 or Greg (510) 865-6792.

Baylands Frontrunners Club for Southbay runners. Men & women welcome. Meets every Sat at 9 am, at the Baylands Athletic Center, Geng Road, off Embarcadero, east of 101, Palo Alto. Info: Linda (408) 245-5083 or Jay (415) 858-2800.

SF Hiking Club: join us for day trips, backpacking & social activities. See calendar listing for this month's schedule. For more info write: SF Hiking Club, PO Box 14065, SF 94114 or call 285-1260 eves.

Gay/Lesbian Sierrans: escape the madness of the city, explore & appreciate the beautiful outdoors. GLS presents 1-3 hikes each week; plus monthly program on 3rd Tues of each month, 7:30 pm, Nat'l Sierra Club, Polk St at Ellis, SF. For SIGN, call TDD 776-8107. For info & free sample newsletter: 653-5012 (24-hrs).

Wilderness Women explore the great outdoors. Hikes, nature study, camping, ski trips & more. All adventures shared with friendly women. $5 monthly calendar/newsletter. Write 5329 Manila Ave, Oakl, 94618. Info: (510) 658-2196.

SAGA North: Gay & Lesbian Alpine Ski Club. Ski trips & social activities. Call 995-2772.

Pacific Assoc of Women Martial Artists (PAWMA) promotes martial arts trainig for women. Dedicated to improving the physical, mental & spiritual development of women martial artists in an atmosphere of mutual respect & trust. Supports access to schools, classes, seminars, workshops, performances, training camps & more. Info: (510) 664-7034 or write: PAWMA, PO Box 12861, Berkeley, CA 94701-12861.

"Grand Hotel, The Musical." See OnStage for info.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club holds Olympic Freestyle Wrestling practices twice weekly. All weights, skill levels & ages welcome. Large facility, accessible to public transit. Info: Gene 821-2991.

SF Wrestling Club: all forms & wrestling styles; all ages, weights & experience levels welcome. Call (510) 538-8490 or (415) 821-9721 for details.

Motorcycle Club for Black gay women. For info write: 1724 Sacramento St #6, SF 94109.

Dyke Diver offers a newsletter for dykes who scuba dive. Send SASE to Dyke Diver, PO Box 460096, SF CA 94146 for info/details.

Sea Snakes: SF's Gay Scuba Club. Monthly mtgs. Dive trips to Monterey, scuba certification classes, social events & exotic dive trips. For info send SASE to Sea Snakes, 291 Geary St, Ste 619A, SF, 94102-1863 or call 431-1340.

SF Tsunami: Gay & Lesbian Masters Swim Team. All ability levels welcome to attend 4 weekly coached workouts. Sun 10-11:45 am at King Pool, 3rd & Carroll, SF. Mon 7:30-9 pm, Wed 6:15-7:30 pm and Thurs 6:15-8 pm at Hamilton Pool, Geary & Steiner, SF. For info call Marta 241-9632 or Ken 621-2778.

Premier Soccer: Premier lesbian players interested in playing hard & pretty, call 835-1095.

Women's Soccer Team: Has members on both sides of the Bay, more members are welcome! Lesbians & friends encouraged to join. Call SF: (415) 641-8771 or EB: (510) 547-3675.

Men's Touch Football Group meets Sat mornings at 10 am in Golden Gate Park, SF. All ages & skill levels are welcome! If you played in high school & miss it, or if you never touched a football before but thought it might be fun to "play with the guys," call John 252-9769 for details.

Stonewall Climbers: Gay & lesbian rockclimbing group. To join us on one of our trips, call 327-5329 or 648-3059.

Gay Tennis Federation: A lesbian & gay tennis club. All playing levels welcome. Write: GTF, 2215-R, Market St #109, SF CA 94114.

X-TA-C Gay & Lesbian Cross Country Skiing Club: Sponsors one-day and weekend trips to various locations in Northern Calif. Potluck meetings held montly during ski season. All skiing levels are welcome. For details call 330-5485.

Nordic Fun Bunnies: Lesbian X-Country Ski Group. Day, weekend & midweek trips. All styles & abilties (track, backcountry, etc; from novice to Olympian) are welcome! Info: (510) 601-1910.

► SUPPORT GROUPS

Loss, Grief & Recovery support group for individuals grieving a death. Learn about normal grief, coping with feelings, caring for yourself, giving & receiving support, rearranging your life, exploring future options. Spons by Hospice by the Bay. Free. 1550 Sutter St (nr Octavia), SF. Info: 673-2020.

Losing A Best Friend: free pet loss support group spons by the SF SPCA for people who have lost an animal companion. Led by Dr Betty Carmack, the group helps pet owners work thru feelings of loss, anger & depression. 7:30-9 pm, 1st Mon of each month at the SF SPCA, 2500 16th St, SF. Info/res: 554-3000.

Bay Area Bisexual Network: umbrella organization for bisexual groups, resources & people. Open to everyone, whether or not they consider themselves bisexuals. Info: 564-BABN.

North American Multicultural Bisexual Network (NABN) acts as a clearinghouse for resources, AIDS info & political alerts. Focus on visibility, education, pride. For info contact NABN, 584 Castro St, #422, SF 94114 or call 775-1990.

Bisexual Women's Rap at Pacific Center: A safe place for Bi women. Drop-in group for women interested in bisexuality. ASL interpretation available by prior arrangement. Wheelchair Accessible. Wed 8-9:45 pm at Pacific Center, Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Bisexual Men's Support Group: discussion of bisexual men's issues. Not a therapy group. Meets every other Sun 7:30-9:30 pm. Info/location: 626-3910.

Bisexual Women's Support Group meets in SF every other Sun from 7-9 pm. Not a therapy group. Occasional social outings. Info: Jane 387-0109.

Bisexual Rap Group: Drop-in group for men & women interested in bisexuality. Warm, friendly people. Meets Sun 7-8:550 pm at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: (510) 548-8283.

Marin Bisexual Women's Support Group: meets 2nd & 4th Thurs in San Anselmo. Info: Cindy 456-4192.

Side by Side provides peer support groups for bisexual men & women. Safe, confidential, friendly. 7-7:30 pm social, followed by mtg until 9:30, then short social time. Group discusses any issues brought forth by those present, especially bisexual issues. New members welcome. Sonoma County: Every Thurs night, call Dena (707) 523-2036 or Colin (707) 823-2990. Mendocino County: 2nd Fri of each month in Ukiah, call Colin (707) 823-2990.

Fundamentalists Anonymous mtg: see Addiction Recovery.

Overcoming Violent Behavior Anonymous: SF group, see Incest & Battery.

Women's Cancer Support Groups: spons by Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, see Health.

Transvestites & Transsexuals rap group (women & men): 1st and 3rd Wed and last Fri monthly, 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

TV/TS & Friends Transgender Group meets 8 pm, last Thurs of each month. SF location. Info: (510) 549-2665 or write ETVC, PO Box 426486, SF CA 94142. We're very active & friendly folks, call us!

Female-to-Male Crossdressers & Transsexuals Only Group. Newsletter & quarterly get-togethers. Info: FTM, 1827 Haight St #164, SF 94117.

Lesbian Adoptees: open group discussing issues around search, reunion, depression, anger, abandonment, identity, etc. Meets every other Sun in SF. Info: Amy 923-1454.

Adoptees, Birth Parents & Adoptive Parents support groups meet throughout the Bay Area. For info/locations: Post Adoption Center for Education & Research (PACER) 935-6622.

Woman to Woman SM: Join the Outcasts, an educational, support & social group for lesbian, bisexual & transsexual women interested in SM with other women. Info/membership: write POB 31266, SF CA 94131-0266.

Lesbians Supporting Lesbian S/M in Sonoma County meets 1st Sun of each month. Call M (707) 525-9822 for more info.

Leatherdykes Support/Discussion/Social Group meets 2nd Thurs of each month, 2 pm. A group of lesbian-identified lesbians into s/m & leather; positive & responsible about sexuality. Group practices safe & consensual s/m sex. For lesbians only. Info: (510) 654-1591 Eastbay.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: discussion group for all lesbians. Meet Thurs 7:30 pm at the Palo Alto YWCA, 4161 Alma (just north of San Antonio), Palo Alto. Different topics each week, see Main Calendar for details. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

Lesbian El Support Group: East Bay Environmental Illness support group. Info: Mickey (510) 843-2649, Naja (510) 548-1549, Randa (415) 648-9481.

Lesbian feminist artist support group for lesbians with chronic illness. Meets once or twice a month in SF/Eastbay for discussion, critique, inspiration & support for doing our art despite the limits of our illness. Access to womyn with El a priority. Both chairs & bed available at mtg. 20 stairs to mtg place. No SIGN/ASL interpreter. Info: Naja (510) 548-1549 or Mickey (510) 843-2649.

Graves' Disease (hyperthyroid) Support Groups in SF & the East Bay: Call Susan (510) 540-8640 for info. In Santa Cruz, call Deborah (408) 479-0559.

UC Berkeley Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc: see Social Groups

Stanford Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc: see Social Groups.

Support Group for Women who want to leave the sex industry meets Tues 4-5:30 pm. Drop-in center open Tues noon-4 pm. 942 Market St #307. Spons by Women Emerging. Info: 982-3365.

Women's Coming Out Group: open to women of all ages, drop-in. Choose topics, make friends. 6 pm Wed at Pacific Ctr (newcomers come at 5:45 pm to meet facilitator). 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Slightly Older Lesbian Support Group for lesbians over 30. Rap group meets 7:30 pm Thurs at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Long-running group. Info: 841-6224 or 548-8283 (leave message for SOL).

BASIL (Bay Area Sicilian & Italian American Lesbians). Una famiglia de lesbiche addressing cultural & political concerns of Sicilian & Italian American lesbians, gain awareness of our ethnic identity, resist assimilation into Anglo culture. If you need a pasta mix, don't dine alone! Call Rosemary 237-6207 or Janet 654-3531. Newcomers welcome, half-bloods are OK.

Working Class Lesbian discussion, writing, visual arts group. A space for working class lesbians to share experiences of growing up working class, develop strong working class identity, make links between classism and other oppressions. Info: Yvette 584-5979.

MidLife Lesbian Support Group meets Mon 6-8 pm in SF. Low-cost, SL fee. Spons by Options for Women Over Forty. Info: 431-6405.

Visualization/Problem Solving Support Group: pool psychic resources to support one another & create change. Info: Margo Adair 861-6838.

Men's Support Group for Foreskin Restoration: meets at 1 pm every 1st Sun of the month. No fees or dues. BUFF and NOCIRC information available. Call Wayne 827-4077 for details.

Support Group for Battered Lesbians, spons by WOMAN, Inc—see Incest & Battery.

Eating Disorder Support Group for men & women recovering from anorexia & bulimia. Call Tommy 750-9569 (leave message) for details

Hot Flashes, support group for premenopausal and post-menopausal lesbians. Call Judith 431-8146 for details.

For More Listings in the support group category, see *SF Bay Times'* classifieds in the "Open Exchange" therapy/support group section, under **"relationship therapy"**, **"recovery addiction"**, **"incest/battery therapy" and "discussion/consultation groups".**

► THERAPY GROUPS

Women's Institute for Mental Health: low-fee individual, couples & grou therapy. SL starts at $15. Groups for women abused as children. Info: 864-2364. 333 Valencia St, SF, Ste 222.

Disabled Lesbian Group for women with physical disabilities, hidden disabilities, chronic illness & chronic pain. Wed & Thurs at Operation Concern. WA, SL. Info: 626-7000 voice/tty.

Gay Men's Disabled Group: are you a gay man with a physical/hidden disability? Isolated & in need of support/therapy? Call 626-7000 v/tty. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF.

Grief Group for those who have lost a loved one thru suicide. Deal with feelings of anger, confusion, guilt. Find strength, support. Meets wkly for 8 wks, lic therapist facilitates. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention. Info: 752-4866.

Grief & Creativity: 10-wk group for women wishing to explore unresolved grief issues. Spons by Children's Hospital of SF & Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center. For more info call Martha Russell, LCSW, 750-6160; or Diane Spaugh, MSW, 923-3515.

McAuley Neuropsychiatric Institute at St Mary's Hospital & Med Ctr in SF offers a number of psychotherapy groups (eating disorders, incest survivors, single parents, women, etc) for individuals & couples. Wkly mtgs, SL fee. For info or to register: Helga Justman, LCSW 750-5603.

Berkeley Free Clinic peer counseling collective provides counseling for individuals & couples, also provides mediations. Info: (510) 548-2570.

Free Mental Health Services for Native Americans in SF at SF Native American Health Clinic, 56 Julian Ave, SF. All-Indian staff, no problem is too large or too small. Info/appt: Dr Lisa Quinn 532-2933.

Men—Have You Abused Your Lover? Feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love most? MOVE offers help for gay & bisexual men who batter. See Incest & Battery section for details.

For Additional Listings in the **Therapy** category see *Bay Times'* classifieds section, "Open Exchange", under the **"counseling"**, **"relationship"**, **"recovery addiction"** and **"incest/battery"** therapy headings.

► YOUTH

Gay Area Youth Switchboard: Call 386-GAYS.

LYRIC (Lavender Youth Recreation Ctr): for lesbian, gay & bisexual youth. Dances, outings, newsletter, etc. Meetings held 2nd Sun of the month at 1853 Market St nr Guerrero, SF. Come meet other youth, have fun! Info: Beth 252-6059.

"Jackson Street," meets weekly, Thurs from 4-5:30 pm. Are you lesbian, gay or bisexual, under 22? Looking for a group that's rap & therapy too? Want to talk about how to survive & deal with issues like coming out, sexual identity, survival, relationships, anxiety about AIDS & other health issues?—if you answered yes to one or all of the above questions, this group's for you! Come find support & help. Group facilitated by Ruth Hughes & Dave Johnson of Ctr for Special Problems. 1700 Jackson St, btwn Van Ness Ave & Franklin St), SF. Co-spons by Lesbian/Gay/Bi Minority Youth Program. Info: Ruth Hughes, 558-4801.

BAY (Bay Area Youth) Positives Group for young people with HIV. See AIDS Resources for details.

California Runaway Hotline provides services to young people who need help, want someone to talk to, or want to send a message to their parents. See Hotlines & Referrals.

Rainbow's End: Lesbian/Gay Youth Group. Open to ages 14-21. Thurs eves at 7 pm. 1000 Sir Francis Drake, room 12, San Anselmo, Marin. Info: 457-3523.

Sexual Identity Forum for Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Youth—and youth exploring sexual identity. Open to ages 21 & under. Meet every Wed night, 7:30-9 pm at the Community Living Room, 28 W. 37th Ave, San Mateo. Drop by & make new friends! Info: 572-0535.

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Bah Humbug? You Bet Your Ass

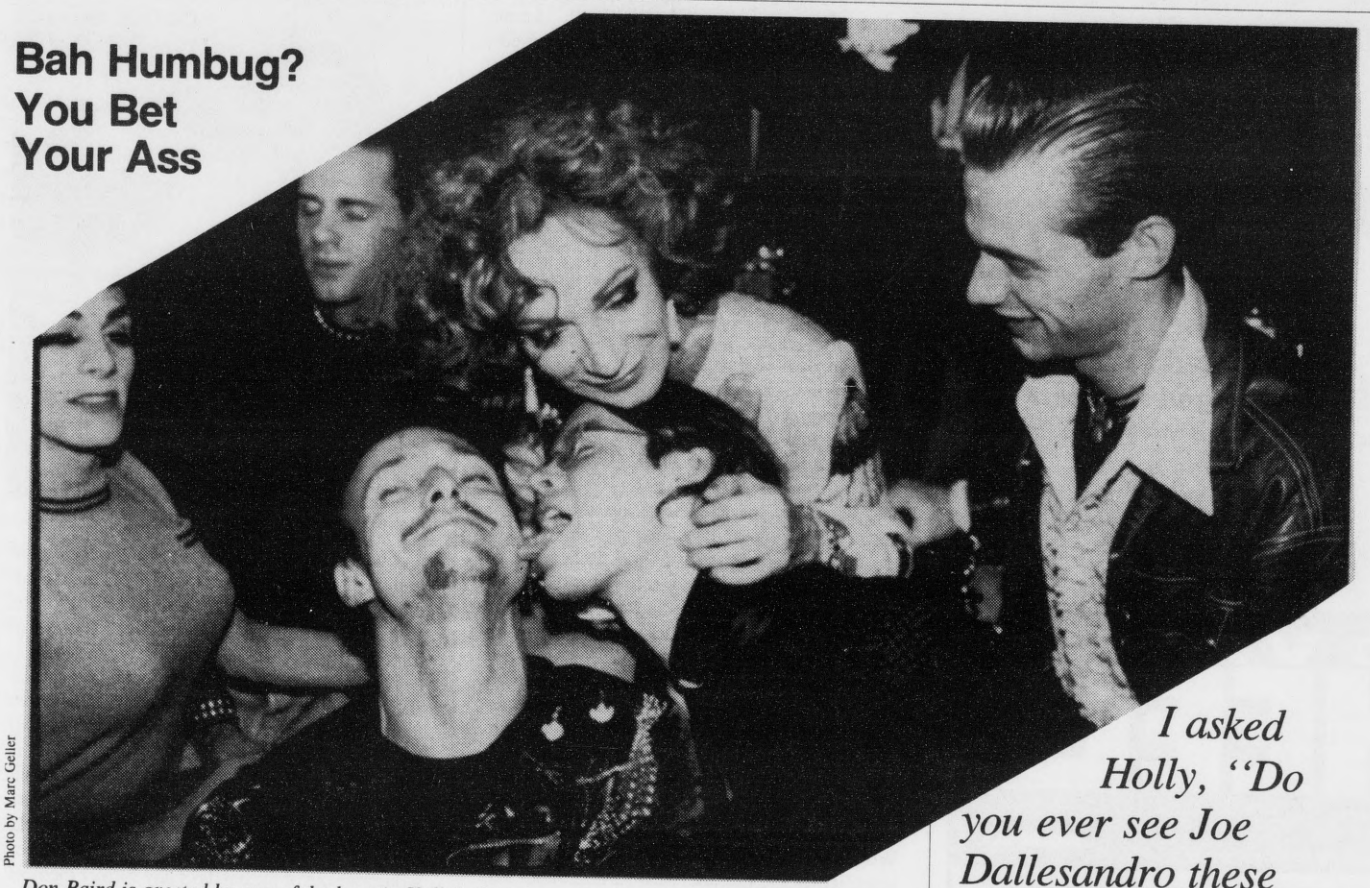

Photo by Marc Geller

Don Baird is greeted by one of the boys in Holly's dressing room, as she looks on.

Here it is, the goddamned holiday season again, and the only true holiday vision I can muster up that brings any sign of glee, cheer or Xmas spirit to my face, is men dressed like elves putting giant candy canes up their butts. It's a dreamy yuletide scene that I favor over the nativity thing any day.

That recurring image is the only thing that's kept me from smashing the windows I see decorated in traditional Xmas style as I walk down the street. It's the only thing that has stopped me from knocking down the fur-clad shopping matrons on hoof in Union Square as I march to a downtown branch of a bank to make a payment to save my credit line from seven years of hell. It's the only thing that has kept me from strangling my friends who are toiling over elaborate homemade baked goods, condiments, preserves and other such crap that you end up throwing away when you clean your fridge before moving to a cheaper place because of lavish gift giving from previous christmases. "Oh thank you for the lovely flavored vinegar!" Clunk.

Bah Humbug? You bet your ass. What is christmas besides that time of year when parents of tiny tots have to worry about whether Macy's Santa Claus is HIV-positive or not. It's the stressful warm-up period for that dismal and statistically suicidal month of January, and I just hope that you dear readers get through it, drawing whatever kind of joy you can from this heinous time of year.

It is possible. For instance, christmas came early for my lovely roommate Michaeldrake (one word) when William Kennedy Smith said, "I... I....uh...I ejaculated," on national television. Our tag word when out on the town and spotting a dreamy guy is, "He's a Kennedy." But as for Xmas, I'm as "over it" as I am of that very expression. And one more thing, let's resolve to eradicate that annoying gay affection of finger snapping in the new year.

HOLLY WOODLAWN

The incredible Miss Woodlawn, on a promotional tour with her book *A Low Life in High Heels*, was summoned well in advance by the clever and beautiful Scott Noren and Diet Popstitute to make an appearance for a night of worship at Klubstitute. It was a perfect idea and by far the most awesome event the Klubstitute clan has ever put on. It was a brilliant meeting of two generations of underground art drag fag cultures, and they fit together like two queens dishing dick while bleaching each other's hair.

I've never been so star-struck in my life, meeting the one Warhol superstar who always outshone the others in my memory. I had the unforgettable pleasure of conducting a brief interview with Holly in an upstairs room full of drag queens that night. Adorably tanked on cheap white wine, she looked absolutely fucking gorgeous, arguably more stunning now than she was for her interview with the welfare caseworker in the film *Trash* when she stood up and yelled, "We deserve Welfare!" and the pillow fell out from her shirt, exposing the fact that she wasn't pregnant at all; just one of many unforgettable cinematic moments graced by her genius. I was nervous as hell but she put me at ease instantly with her smile.

My first question for Holly was, "In your makeup bag, what's your best friend?" She responded, "I don't have a makeup bag, I don't carry a bag. You know I don't believe in purses. I carry two things when I go out, keys and lipstick. I guess lipstick is it." She then went off on a snickering ramble that started with a designer fragrance and ended with several allusions to dick cheese. I knew we could talk trash comfortably after that. "You know, Gucci, Gaultier, Camembert...oh, there's cheese again!"

Holly told me that there are two actors she could see playing her in films about the Warhol scene or the possible movie version of her book, and those two actors were Alex Arquette and Macaulay Caulken of *Home Alone* fame. She thinks Madonna is great, not necessarily her music, but as a public figure who pushes people. She used to see her around nightclubs when she was younger and loved that she didn't shave her armpits. Holly mentioned Madonna's financial backing of Lipsyncha's show and expressed her approval of Madonna by exclaiming, "I say, Yeah, go, free pussy lives!"

I asked Holly, "Do you ever see Joe Dallesandro these days, and have you ever seen him hard?" She said she was really glad someone finally asked that question.

When Holly watches TV she watches *The Joan Rivers Show*, and her favorite music to listen to is Barbra Streisand, very old Barbra Streisand. Her favorite movie is *The Prodigal*, starring Lana Turner. Holly also mentioned Liz Taylor in *Cleopatra* as one of her favorite roles, but she seemed to regard the movies of today as something she'd rather not pay much attention to, because, "basically I'm a Pagan person."

At a certain point in the interview, after she helped one of the queens in the room blow up a balloon, she didn't care to elaborate on a question, so she said, "Who cares, next question, ask me a good one." I responded with, "Do you ever see Joe (Dallesandro) these days, and have you

(continued on next page)

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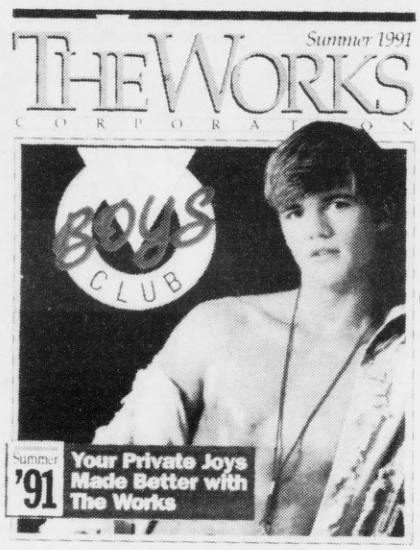

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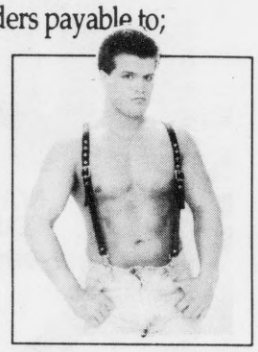

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(continued from previous page)

ever seen him hard?'' She said she was really glad someone finally asked that question, because she claimed that she has never seen him nude in person in her whole life. ''In *Trash* he always had that blanket on him so I never saw a thing. As far as hard, I've seen pictures, but that's all.'' I then told her that I saw a porno film that was supposedly Joe getting fucked. It looked like him. Holly responded with, ''We all had to do a number of different things back then.''

I asked Holly what she did in the '80s and she said, ''I was a high price call girl on Park Avenue.'' God love her! All the queens present in the room were sitting on the edge of their seats when I asked Holly if she had met anyone in SF who in her opinion had true star quality. Her answer was curt and quick, ''Sure, Bambi.'' She also expressed an affection for all ''her girls'' there in the room with her.

She announced that the next day she was to do an interview on the radio with Alex Bennett, whom I warned her about as a big gigantic rude dickhead and homophobe, while Miss X suggested that Holly do what Tippi always did when she was interviewed on the radio—wear all of the noisiest jewelry possible. Holly was also intrigued by the abundance of drag queens in SF and asked under her breath if it was mostly because of her that the girls came out in full regalia. I said they all looked just a little bit fancier than usual that night, but in general the queens rage in SF all the fucking time.

Now comes the part I love to brag about. Holly seemed to take a liking to me, and several times toyed with that good old classic drag-queen style of saucy, suggestive come ons, directed at me. I was in heaven, of course, and she kissed me several times and gave me an autograph which read, ''To Don, You beast! I love you madly, Holly Woodlawn.'' It was the single most satisfying, scintillating and fun interview I ever conducted, and I was in near hysteria for the rest of the night. I have a feeling that Holly Woodlawn will be the first, last and only true superstar I'll ever interview. Fine by me. In her parting words, I think Holly gave away the true secret of her extremely youthful good looks. She said, ''I hate being an adult.'' That fiery, child-like lust is worth more than all the pearl cream and plastic surgery in the world.

GRAVITY

At long last I finally caught a set by SF's only techno-industrial dance trance duo, Gravity, at Faster Pussycat the other night. I had seen them once before, but it was a long time ago. What they have become since that time is quite definitely earmarked for success. Gravity is really funny, technically advanced to a point of complete musical richness, really fun to watch, with the jerky, sarcastic and highly developed dancing of Randy Webb, and finally, something one might not expect from a techno-industrial outfit. Gravity posesses a certain human warmth while working in a musical medium that is identified usually by cold dehumanized qualities.

They have also learned how to present their music in the live situation with lots of vitality, something much more engaged than pale motionless techno-weenies pushing buttons and scowling behind keyboards, like the last Chris and Cosey show I saw. As far as I know, there are no other bands in SF making music like this, so I'm very excited about their future. The other half of the duo, Tom, introduced a song that night with, ''I was hanging out at the Pendulum having a beer with Frank Jordan the other day and he said this acid-dance-trance stuff is gonna be big.'' I'd have to agree with Frank. Go see this band.

THE BAMMIES

Yes, it's time for that ever-lovin' blessed event once again. Ho-humm. But wait! It's different this year. The main difference is that some of our dearest, most loveable performers here in the City are nominated, including Connie Champagne for best female vocalist. And Connie wants that Bammie really bad. So in January, look for an appearance by Connie at Klubstitute, during which a portion of her set will be devoted to an audience participation ballot stuffing exercise. Connie will supply ballots, envelopes, maybe even stamps,

Photo by Marc Geller

Holly Woodlawn

and we'll try to get enough individually posted ballots in to headquarters by Jan. 27, the cut-off date for votes, to win that damned award for the songbird with a heart of gold whose LP is one of the best of the year.

Think of the super sassy acceptance speech she'll make! You don't have to wait till that night, though; you can start sending ballots in on your own right away, one per envelope, available in every issue of BAM. Note the other nominations for other local heroes like Gary Floyd and members of Sister Double Happiness and American Music Club too. Let's see what we can do to keep a Bammie out of the hands of any former member of Journey this year. Also, stay tuned for a new 900 number for Connie Champagne's quest for a Bammie. And for god's sake, don't miss her show. It's all the proof you'll need to know she deserves that award and much, much more.

ATN...

(continued from page 14)

How do the endocrine system and immune system communicate with each other?

Actually, they tend to contradict each other. High doses of cortisol can suppress the immune system. So of course we avoid massive, extended doses. We just want to help people over the critical days of an acute illness, even if the immune system is insulted briefly. Also, there is some speculation that HIV-infected cells secrete something like ACTH; perhaps to circumvent any inadequate production by the pituitary.

Does adrenal insufficiency become more likely as HIV progresses?

You need to watch for the typical clinical signs: low blood pressure, low blood sugar, high potassium. As with any debility, you have to consider the role of pituitary hormones.

Is there a patient group you would particularly recommend testing for adrenal insufficiency?

Unless there is some concrete suspicion, I wouldn't do it on asymptomatic patients. It may be a marker in asymptomatics, but even then, there are other markers to follow.

So theoretically, if there is HIV involvement of the pituitary or adrenals in someone with no apparent symptoms, then AZT, ddI or ddC could reverse it or stabilize it?

Yes, if HIV is the problem. Otherwise, I would wait until some symptoms develop. It's an interesting situation that's still evolving, but it shows the diffuse nature of this virus, and the many different systems affected. The endocrine involvement certainly is secondary, but by correcting an insufficiency you can make someone feel a lot better and even shorten an acute illness.

Excerpted from AIDS Treatment News, a twice-monthly newsletter available by subscription. For more information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: ATN, P.O. Box 411256, SF 94141, or call (800) TREAT-1-2.

MUSIC

'Tis the Season With the Gay Men's Chorus

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, with special guests Gail Wilson and City Swing, brought the Christmas season to the Herbst Theatre with a two-night concert, "Holidays Around the World." Until you've heard 59 tenors, 39 baritones and 38 basses soaring in a program of international religious and folk music, you just haven't heard caroling. Stan Hill directed with crisp authority.

The opener, a classical selection representing Germany, was Bach's elegant and precise "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring." "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind," with Shakespeare's somber lyrics, was sung with dramatic intensity. Also representing England, the stately measured "In the Bleak Mid-Winter" featured tenor Paul Trombley, and was followed by the moving, exquisitely soft "What Child Is This?" This beautiful blend of male voices then erupted into an exhilarating "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day." Accompanied by the vivacious beat of a single tambourine, the song released an aura of joyousness over the audience.

Israel was represented by William Sharlin's "Tzor Te'udah," the evening's most solemn offering. "Still, Still, Still," one of the group's most melodious arias, was Austria's entry. It featured soloist Jess G. Perry on the lyrics of Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman to music of Normal Luboff.

The 17-man Chamber Singers took center stage to sing three traditional French carols (well known by tune if not by title): "March of the Kings," "Patapan" and "Ding Dong: Merrily on High." These Burgundian and 16th century carols announce Christmas with their very first notes.

The full chorus turned to Spain for a traditional carol, "Pastores a Belen." Tender and haunting, it featured the sweet tenor of Rene Astudillo. The United States was represented by the Appalachian carol "I Wonder As I Wander" and the rich bass of Guy Jacobs.

Special guest Robert Cazimero accompanied himself on piano and sang his own arrangement of John Kamealoah Almeida's "Mahealani Moon," without doubt the most beautiful Hawaiian song I've ever heard. Scott Kaliulaokala Galuteria and Patrick K. Makuakane performed a hula in a breathtaking interpretation of the lyrics' invitation to feast, sing and dance.

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

Some of the guys from the SF Gay Men's Chorus sang in the Castro for the lighting of the Christmas Tree at 18th Street.

Leontovich's "Carol of the Bells" represented the Ukraine to complete the first set.

Of unique visual interest was a series of softly lighted tableaux enacted above the chorus, that illustrated the nationalities of the carols. Top-hatted Victorian gentlemen toasted the season; a little boy discovered his Christmas stocking; a nutcracker danced around a handsome rocking horse; a rabbi conducted a service; and carolers rang bells. It was a most effective accompaniment to the music.

Gail Wilson and City Swing (under the direction of Wayne Love) opened the second half. "Legs" Wilson, resplendent in flowing white chiffon—split up to *there* to affirm her nickname—sang her "everybody dance" standby, "Tangerine," followed by Mel Torme's classic "Christmas Song," and a gorgeous ballad especially suited to her vocal temperament, "Travelin' Light." Setting her own holiday mood, she sang a swing arrangement of "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," and then purred through that very personal Christmas list, "Santa Baby." The high-spirited band soloed on "Jingle Bell Rock" and "I'll Be Home for Christmas." Among City Swing's soloists, Bob Eisenman on sax, Bradley Connlain on trumpet and Marlina Teich on guitar were standouts.

Wilson then led the entire chorus through one of my all-time favorite Christmas songs, Carol Hall's "Hard Candy Christmas." Wayne Love did the special arrangement. Far from a cheery tune, this touching song says a lot more about getting through the holidays than those cutsey radio songs about reindeer and what the kids saw Mommy doing to Santa Claus.

The chorus then rollicked through "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year." followed by a set of Wayne Love arrangements to half a dozen sing-along standards that included "Let It Snow," "White Christmas," "Silver Bells" and, of course, "Jingle Bells."

The Gay Men's Chorus presents "Home for the Holidays," a traditional carol sing-along at the Castro Theatre on Dec. 24 at 7 and 9:30 pm.

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LOUNGING ABOUT

BY VAL C PHOENIX

LESBIAN/WOMAN 20th ANNIVERSARY
The Cafe, Dec. 4

Well, we all know this venue as Cafe San Marcos, but technically, it's now *The Cafe*. I think it's a stupid name, but for accuracy's sake... Anyway, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon were on hand to celebrate the release of the revised edition of *Lesbian/Woman*. They took turns reading from it and then signed copies of the book. Nibbling the hors d'oeuvres (quiche, cheese and crackers), I watched as women approached their table with some snazzy-looking books. These were the limited edition copies, which have the "front stamped in silver foil [and] outside edges gilded with silver," as the helpful promotional notes say. They're selling for $100 each, with the proceeds to benefit Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services and the National Center for Lesbian Rights. A surprising number of women, credit cards in hand, scooped up the books. Lesbian power money in action.

ELECTION NIGHT RETURNS
(A.K.A. THE FINAL CONFLICT)
San Francisco, Dec. 10

Having whittled the victory parties down to two, I thought party-hopping would be easier, but no, the Agnos and Jordan soirees weren't very close to each other. L., my shaven-headed and pierced cohort, was along for the ride this time, and well-prepared with a backpack and deep pockets. On our way to MUNI, we spotted some Jordan for Fuhrer posters and on a whim took two with us. Our destination: the Hilton. Yes, Frank's folks went all out on this one. We went up the escalators, noting the security guard on each landing. A welcoming, homey touch. Once inside the ballroom, we found ourselves in a sea of polyester. It was the Night of the Living Hets. Clearing a path as we went, we finally found the food table and stood on line to get rolls and lots of cheese, eschewing the cold cuts and roast beef.

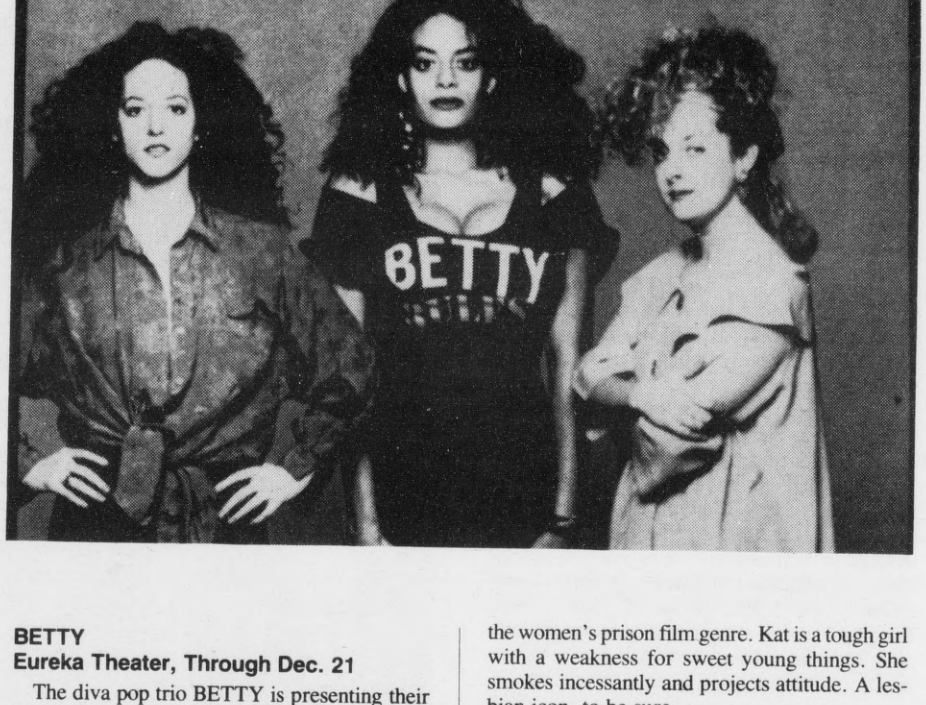
As part of the "million dollar entertainment," comedian Michael Pritchard cracked, "The great thing about San Francisco is that if you don't like some group because of their color or their race, you just wait and some other group will come along for you not to like." Love that wacky, bridge-building humor.

L. studied the crowd and concluded, "We should put acid in their meat." Just then, I noticed a stray slice of salami on the floor. As I watched, a woman's stiletto heel spiked it and dragged it away. Score! I walked off to put down my plate and returned to find L. hitting up Santa Claus for some candy. This, along with the roll and fork, added a definite bulge to my left breast.

We decided to leave, but as we reached the door, I noticed the TV cameras panning the crowd. Cameras, hmm. Out came the Jordan for Fuhrer signs, and after L. chased down the cameraman, we had our moment of glory. Making a hasty departure to the "Ladies" room, we deposited the signs in prominent places and exited the Hilton.

Outside, we passed a group of Jordan supporters, including two women in furs. Ever the tactful one, L. gushed, "Ooh, great fur! What kind of animal did you use?" The lone man made a cutting, witty reply, and we continued on, but then behind us we heard a commotion and turned to find a large man lumbering our way. "Do you want to continue the discussion about that fur?" he leered. We could see he was drunk and spoiling for a fight, so we turned our backs on him and walked on. "You have to listen to me!" he roared. "No, we don't," I said. The bus took forever to come, and while we waited, a homeless man said Jordan had won and predicted Black men would be the first targets.

Finally, we reached the Agnos affair. All seemed lost, but he hadn't conceded, and supporters were rallying the faithful. L. and I browsed over the chips and salsa, finally reaching the cake. I was nearly full, but managed to grab a couple slices. L. got some Sprite, though she desperately wanted something stronger and wished aloud that someone would buy her a drink. A parade of politicos crossed the stage: Nancy Pelosi, Tom Ammiano, Carole, Roberta. Art appeared and said his piece, and immediately people began clearing out. We stopped at the restroom on our way out and almost crashed into Lea Militello, whom I'd pointed out earlier to L. as someone she should recognize since she's been arrested three times. Coincidence or fate? Pondering the turn of events, we swallowed our trepidation by singing Carpenters' songs on the way home.



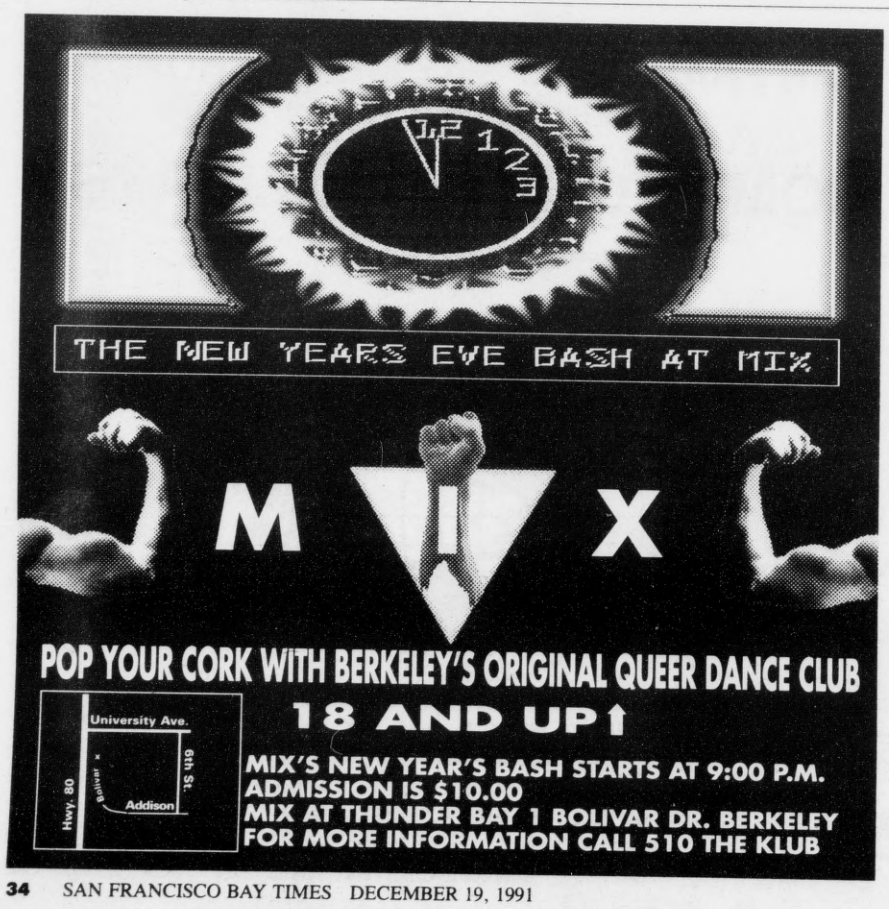
BETTY
Eureka Theater, Through Dec. 21

The diva pop trio BETTY is presenting their Holiday Camp Revue through Dec. 21 at the Eureka. And who couldn't use some camp to get through the holidays? Really, it's just an excuse for them to spin their spoken word tales, sing their songs, and engage in the sly sexual humor that has become their stock in trade—and I loved it. The show contains some of the same material as last spring's escapade, such as the bicycle bit, "Echo," and "Shrinkback," which you can hear on their first release, *Hello, BETTY!* Listening to the record, though, you won't get the atmosphere of a BETTY show: the captivating visuals or audience interaction. Amy Ziff's facial expressions are drop dead funny and her comic timing superb. Bitzi, her twin sister, maintains a detached presence, shimmying in her tight outfits, while making occasional devastating eye contact with selected members of the audience. And then there's Alyson Palmer. Ah, Alyson. Tall and built to last, she wields her bass guitar like an Amazonian scepter. Definitely a commanding presence.

These three women create their own world, one swirling with polysexual innuendo and humor. Their new material includes one vignette with a space age theme. This dragged a bit on opening night, though the return of Kat was welcome. Kat is Amy's creation, a bad girl character lifted from the women's prison film genre. Kat is a tough girl with a weakness for sweet young things. She smokes incessantly and projects attitude. A lesbian icon, to be sure.

The lead-in to the performance is a winner, as well. It's a film done in mock anthropological style which chronicles the rise and fall of BETTY. We see their upbringing—Amy and Bitzi as rural twins eking out a hardscrabble existence and Alyson as a pampered, but bored debutante. Joining forces and rising to untold heights of celebritism, the girls find fame has its drawbacks and they fall into the abyss. My favorite bit: when Bitzi gets rambunctious with a woman friend and gets thrown out of a bar. Thankfully, BETTY arrives onstage to conclude the show-business melodrama. The trio has been negotiating about doing a TV series, which would bring their brand of superfabulousness to a larger audience. Until then, check 'em out live.

Endnote: Calling all black leather elves! Hell's Belles Women's Motorcycle Club will be making a holiday toy run to deliver toys to kids living with their mothers at La Casa de las Madres, Florence Crittenton, and the Elizabeth Frye Center. They'll be leaving from 2222 15th St. at 11 am on Dec. 21. You can help 'em out by dropping off toys at the meeting site or if you're a woman, you can show up with your bike and ride with the gang. Ooh.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CABARET

BY GENE PRICE

Jim Bailey as Phyllis Diller

Illusionist Jim Bailey has quartered himself for his current holiday gig at The Plush Room. He opened with a three-day revival of Phyllis Diller (billed as the Madonna of the Geritol Set), updated his Streisand persona through Dec. 15, converted himself into Judy Garland for a run through Christmas Eve, and returns Dec. 26-29 as vocalist Jim Bailey. He reprises Garland again New Year's Eve.

Bailey's past appearances as Streisand and Garland were uncanny holograms that not only recreated the two superstars' unique vocal talents but rounded out their characterizations with some remarkable emotional and psychological insights. Phyllis Diller is another matter. As subject matter, she offers little more than a one-dimensional standup comedienne firing off one-liners in a raucous cackle. Visually, his Diller is right on. But we never discover the real woman inside the short silver cocktail dress, the wide-eyed makeup and the fright wig.

For slightly more than an hour Bailey does a Diller gamut of relatively dated material. Her inadequacy as a housekeeper: "If it weren't for the ants, we'd have crumbs all over the floor." Her childhood as an ugly duckling: "I was a full-term miscarriage. I was so ugly when I was born, the doctor slapped everybody. When I was 30 years old my mother was still trying to get an abortion." Her husband Fang: When she fixes breakfast, he calls it "morning sickness" and even the cat covers it up. Fang's cheapness: When she threw an I.O.U. into a wishing well, Fang dived in after it and broke his neck. That was her wish. Her mother-in-law: "She's so ugly she has a beauty mark with a wart on it." The Pope: "He gave me his recipe for holy water. Boil the hell out of it."

For relative topicality she trashes the Reagans, Amy Carter, Vanna White and Roseanne Arnold ("She was so big as a child her mother dressed her alike").

Bailey has Diller's delivery down to a T, but Diller's all-important explosive laugh seemed a little muted. "I found a fly in my soup." Pause to flick an ash from an unlit cigarette. "I broke my tooth on the zipper." Cackle.

It all sounds familiar. But maybe second-hand Diller just isn't as funny as first-hand Diller once was. Or maybe there just isn't enough there for this master illusionist to get his teeth into. But two sizzlers are promised for the near future—Lena Horne and Marilyn Monroe. Can't wait.

Jim Bailey is Phyllis Diller

Jim Bailey continues at The Plush Room through New Year's Eve. Call 885-6800.

Meg 'N' Me

Meg Mackay—recently of *And What, Give Up Show Biz?* and *Stardust*—and Billy Philadelphia, currently beating out some boogie on the Pan Pacific Hotel piano, brought their duet act to the Great American Music Hall for a one-nighter.

They breezed through a couple of so-so, uptempo duets before Meg, in a glittery top that matched her sapphire eyes, settled down to evoke the quintessential film noir roadhouse singer with the *City of Angels'* ballad, "With Every Breath I Take." "Seduced" and "Find Out What They Like" served as Billy and Meg's respective solos, though both choices were less sophisticated than I would have expected of this '90s couple. (Meg's got too much class to settle for Sophie Tucker innuendo.)

Johnny Mandel's "Close Enough for Love" was a lovely ballad, beautifully sung by Meg, sensitively played by Billy. "Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar" offered the pianist the chance to cut loose on some barrelhouse boogie—and he did. For my money, though, he could drop "Piano Players" (a contrived recitation of piano players' names) from any future concert. Meg's "Lieder," a satire on Dietrich-type singers, was a delightful reprise of her star turn in "Show Biz," and Rodgers and Hart's "Where or When" was pure torch.

Their second set opened with Sondheim's wickedly insightful "The Little Things You Do Together," and Meg, now in molten gold, sang the world premiere of Kathy Rubbico's "Anywhere." (I'm sorry to say that musically and lyrically it didn't seem to go, well, anywhere.) "Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most" one of the vocalist's standard "biggies" continues to pull some real emotional punch and the piano accompaniment was masterful. Vernon Duke's "Speaking of Love" was a refreshingly sweet duet and Calloway's "Scat Song"—with Billy playing scat instructor to Meg's slightly-off-the-beat student—was a delightful set piece.

"Baby Mine" from *Dumbo* was Billy's best solo of the evening; yes, even better than his Hoagy Carmichael signature tune "Lazy River." Meg's own composition, "Bovine Kinda Love," was a bluesy sample of her off-the-wall humor, and her beautifully simple rendition of "I Sure Like The Boys" topped her contribution to the second set. No vocal tricks. No emoting. Just singing. It couldn't have been more effective.

I might wish that this attractive duo would cull their songbook and settle for singing good songs and retire those five or six "specialty" numbers of dubious musical or entertainment value.

They'll be doing New Year's Eve at the Pan Pacific Hotel. Call for times and reservations, 771-8600.

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THEATRE

BY GENE PRICE

Lamplighters In Space

One of my favorite musical extravaganzas of each year is the Lamplighters' Gala, their annual foray into a Gilbert and Sullivan spoof. To close this season, a cast of 50 flung themselves body and voice into outer space in a delightful spinoff called *Star Drek: Where No Operetta Has Gone Before*.

Perhaps not as satirically incisive as plots of past years (financial misdeeds on Montgomery Street, or warring wineries in Napa Valley), the current opus is an ambitious one. J. Geoffrey Colton is credited with the dialogue and his collaborator of past years, Barbara Heroux, is only credited with *additional* dialogue, which may account for its less sassy, less topical attitude.

Gilbert's lyrics are altered to fit the situation and this Gala's situation mostly concerns two warring factions of the Lamplighters (the traditionalists vs. the Sondheimers) who have colonized Planet D'Oyly 7 in the 24th century. In an attempt to woo the *Chronicle* critics, the Sondheimers want to forsake Gilbert and Sullivan for Gershwin and Lerner and Lowe. Too much G&S, they claim, rots the brain.

Songs from every production of the past season are mixed and matched with delicious abandon. Reginald Bunthorne (Lawrence Ewing) and the Duchess of Plaza-Toro (Jean Cardin Ziaza) sing songs from *Patience, Pinafore* and *Mikado* to suit their political whims. Yum-Yum (Marilyn Smith) and Beep-Bo (Diane D'Angelo) sing a terribly funny duet to "Three Little Maids," their third sister-in-song having been mysteriously sucked through a wind tunnel onto planet Arcadee (where everyone eventually ends up for a big reconciliation sing-along).

There are romantic mix-ups galore. Rose Maybud (Marti K. Berg) not only has her regular operetta swain to cope with, she must also fend off the amorous advances of lovesick Captain Quirk who is referred to lyrically as "a basket case from outer space." Robin (Christopher Walkey) and Casila (Karen Tesitor) along with other singers engage in quartets from *Gondoliers, Princess Ida* and *Pinafore*.

Superb singer/comedienne Jane Hammett made too brief an appearance as Mabel from *Pirates*. William Neil was impressive as chief priest Beta on the planet Arcadee as were Rick Williams and Anne Hubble in their turn from *Mikado*. Space forbids acknowledging the individual talents of all 34 principals, not counting a chorus of 15, musicians, costumers and carpenters. Baker Peeples conducted.

As I've mentioned before, with a bit of merchandising and an extended run, the annual Gala might well turn into an irreverent but profitable gold mine.

A Bologna Christmas

Doesn't it make you warm all over to know the Webers are doing open house again this holiday season? Nothing ever changes at the Webers, and nothing should. They're the perfect American family to spend Christmas Eve with. Well, maybe they're a little off-center but not noticeably so.

Sally Sue still welcomes you at the door as a trickle of snow sifts over your shoulders. She steers you through the living room to a comfortable seat where Bradley takes over with his cookies, candy and popcorn concession. You remember Bradley. He's just like one of the family even though his real folks left him behind when they went away on vacation ten years ago.

Phil, the grinning, red-nosed, pipe-smoking, all-American father we all wanted but never got, fusses about, spreading good cheer, poking his video camera in people's faces, and trying to tell some pointless story about Christmas when he was a boy. Just ignore him. Naomi Weber, a mother-knows-best homemaker if there ever was one, may be seen nipping a bit—and then a bit more—as she's fixing the turkey, but what the hell, it's only once a year.

There are carols, of course and a visit from a Swami, some slides from back home, and a sex education film that is unfortunately turned off before I could discover if I've been doing it right or not. There's a gift exchange, too, but not before Phil and Bradley roll up their trouser legs and reprise their annual "Sisters" number from *White Christmas*.

As Sally Sue says, "Isn't it just the best Christmas…ever?" I imagine it's a lot like having Christmas with the Bushes.

The Webers, otherwise known as the Fratelli Bolognas, include Drew Letchworth (Sally Sue), William Hall (Bradley), John X. Heart (Phil), and Richard Dupell (Naomi). Albert Takazauckas directs.

So make it a point to visit the Webers. You'll be welcomed like a member of the family any Wednesday through Saturday at 8 pm or Sundays at 2 pm. Life on the Water, Fort Mason. Call 776-8999.

Photo by Kirk Schroeder

Miko Lee is Tsukio in "Inugami (The Dog God)"

Inugami (The Dog God)

Yuriko Doi, artistic director of Theatre of Yugen, has directed a compelling production of Shuji Terayama's dream play *Inugami*. (She also directed *Rashomon* and *Tea* in recent TheatreWorks' productions.)

First produced in Germany in 1969, *Inugami* and other of the avant-garde playwright's works were withdrawn by his mother after his death in the '70s. A personal, woman-to-woman appeal by director Doi is responsible for this U.S. premiere.

Seven actors play 15 roles. Utilizing puppets, masks, black-clad stagehands and some extravagantly designed costumes by Beaver Bauer, the play unfolds a nightmarish tale of superstition and loneliness in an isolated Japanese village where everyday life is filled with fear and repression and where individual freedom is limited by the closed family system.

As The Poet, Ellen Brooks is the dream interpreter who both explains and foretells the actions of this contemporary Noh (tragedy) play.

Young Tsukio (Miko Lee) lives with his grandmother, the versatile actor/singer Mikio Hirata. Tsukio is the alien child in every society of children. When they play hide-and-seek, nobody comes to look for him. A victim of adult superstition, he is believed to be a descendant of the dog god because his mother was attacked by wild dogs during her pregnancy.

Annie Hallart and Garrett Lowe round out the cast in multiple roles. The minimalist set design by Gronk features a sliding screen, a Buddhist shrine, a clock, and a spider lily symbolizing the closed living space of the traditional family from which escape is considered a sin. *Inugami* was translated by UCLA professor Carol Fisher Sorgenfrei.

Founded in 1978 by Yuriko Doi, Theatre of Yugen is the only company in the United States working primarily with the 600-year-old Japanese forms of theatre.

City of Angels

More an homage to a '40s film genre than a satire, *City of Angels* (winner of six Tonys) is a triumph of conceptual packaging. After a decade of bombardment from overseas megamusicals with on-stage helicopters, caterwauling felines, crashing chandeliers and fog machines, Broadway has done itself proud with this ingeniously conceived, handsomely produced musical about a Hollywood screenwriter and the down-at-the-heels detective who inhabits his script.

With clever borrowings from any number of dark-shadowed, over-plotted "who-dunnits" of the '40s, *City of Angels* tells the story of private investigator Stone (Jeff McCarthy) who is importuned by statuesque beauty Alaura Kingsley (Lauren Mitchell) to find her wayward stepdaughter Mallory (Anastasia Barzee). When gumshoe Stone (25 bucks a day, eight cents a mile) sees Alaura's $100 bill, the deal is cinched. That, along with his voice-over appraisal of his client: "Only the floor kept her legs from going on forever."

But this hoary film noir conceit is only half of the musical. It is, in fact, mere grist from the typewriter of ex-New Yorker author Stine (Stephen Bogardus) who has been brought to Hollywood to adapt his successful novel for the screen. The staging alternates between black and white scenes of the unfolding screenplay and full color scenes of Stine succumbing to the Hollywood lifestyle while he writes—and rewrites—feebly defending his creative integrity against the producer's intervention. As Stine x's out dialogue on his typewriter, the film actors reverse their steps and spew gibberish in the manner of film being rewound. Spotlights signify romantic closeups. A spinning light wheel recalls those cliche slow dissolves.

Since Stine utilizes all of the real people in his life as characters in his screenplay, practically every actor in *City of Angels* is double cast. His real producer, Buddy Fidler (Charles Levin) also doubles as Irving S. Irving, the archetype of the Goldwynism-spouting movie director. Producer Fidler's real life wife is the movie's femme fatale Alaura. Fidler's secretary (Catherine Cox) is detective Stone's wisecracking receptionist. Stine's real life wife, Bobbi (Leslie Denniston) is Stone's ex-girl friend. (She let him take the rap for a murder she committed.)

If it's in black and white, it's a movie sequence. If it's in color it's about real people…real Hollywood people—if that isn't an oxymoron.

As reality and fiction converge, times take an Alice-in-Wonderland turn to the left, and the musical's most innovative scene unfolds. Stine, cav-

(continued on next page)

C O D Y · S

JANUARY EVENTS 1992

ROBERT ORNSTEIN Jan. 6, Monday. 8:00 P.M.
Psychologist Robert Ornstein, author of *The Psychology of Consciousness*, will discuss his new book, *The Evolution of Consciousness: Darwin, Freud, and Cranial Fire—The Origins of the Way We Think*. The human mind, says Ornstein, evolved to cope with a primitive world and tribal imperatives that no longer exist. Its key trait is the ability to adapt, but without conscious effort, humans may not be able to cope with the survival issues of our time, crises which are long-term, global and collective, not immediate and personal.

VALERIE MINER Jan. 7, Tuesday. 8:00 P.M.
Valerie Miner, author of *Blood Sisters*, will read from her latest work, *Rumors from the Cauldron: Selected Essays, Reviews, and Reportage*, a collection chronicling the evolution of the women's and antiwar movements from 1960's to the present. Miner explores her own development as a feminist writer and brings a sensitive critical eye to the work of a wide multicultural range of women novelists and poets.

ZSUZSANNA E. BUDAPEST Jan. 9, Thursday. 8:00 PM.
Zsuzsanna E. Budapest, author of *The Grandmother of Time* and founding mother of the contemporary women's Dianic mysteries spiritual tradition, will discuss her new book, *Grandmother Moon: Lunar Magic in Our Lives: Spells, Rituals, Goddesses, Legends and Emotions Under the Moon. Grandmother Moon* is a compendium of practical and entertaining lunar lore, from ancient moon-based rituals to lunar cycle diet tips. "This book pleases and enchants while it instructs..."—Kate Millet, author of *Sexual Politics*.

ANN CHARTERS Jan. 14, Tuesday. 8:00 P.M.
Ann Charters, biographer of Jack Kerouac, edited his *Scattered Poems*, and compiled the first pictorial history of the Beats, *Scenes Along the Road*, has created a new anthology, *The Portable Beat Reader*. Charters pays particular attention to the interconnectedness of the various literary circles and the vigorous cross-fertilization between the writers. This is the best literary anthology to date of the most important writers associated with the Beat Generation literary movement, from 1945 to the present.

CATHERINE MACKINNON Jan. 16, Thursday. 8:00 P.M.
Law professor Catherine Mackinnon, author of *Sexual Harassment of Working Women, Feminism Unmodified*, and *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*, will discuss some of the themes and issues central to her work. Catherine Mackinnon is one of the major intellectual forces in contemporary American Feminism. Her main points of focus have been sexual harassment and organizing against pornography.

CHIN-NING CHU Jan. 21, Tuesday. 8:00 P.M.
Chin-ning Chu, creator and president of Asian Consultants, Inc. and author of *The Chinese Mind Game*, will discuss her new book, *The Asian Mind Game: Unlocking the Hidden Agenda of the Asian Business Culture*. Asians view the marketplace as a battlefield with rules and secret strategic maneuvers that have been a part of their lives for thousands of years. *The Asian Mind Game* explores the Asian psyche, and how it manifests in business, politics, life and battle.

If you cannot attend, please call (510) 845-7852 to reserve an autographed copy.

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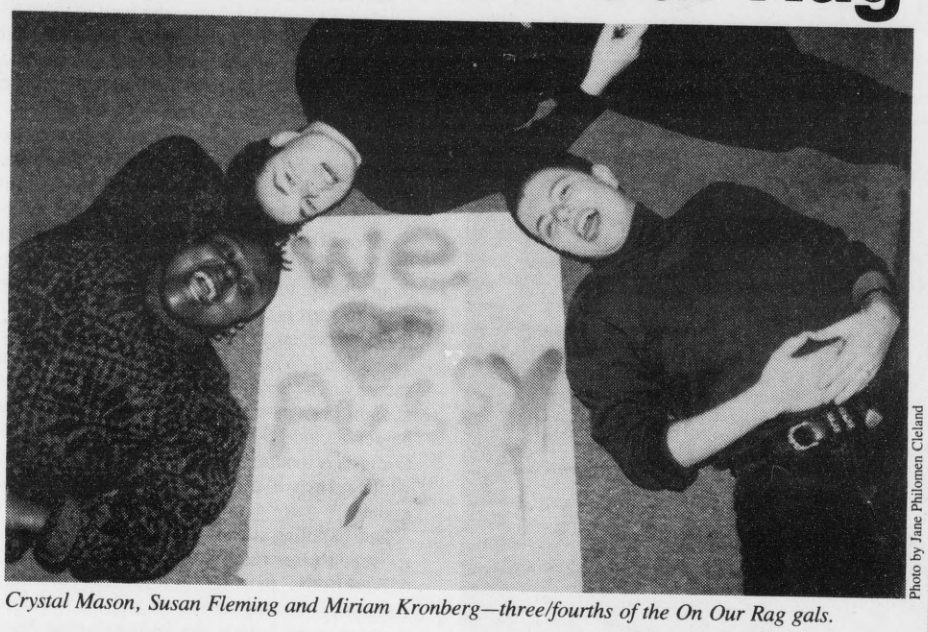

Photo by Jane Philomen Cleland

Crystal Mason, Susan Fleming and Miriam Kronberg—three/fourths of the On Our Rag gals.

BY VAL C. PHOENIX

When *On Our Rag* celebrated its first anniversary of publishing recently, the birthday party for the 'zine featured the usual cake and festivity, but with a twist. Instead of singing the conventional "Happy Birthday," party-goers were led through the *Rag's* own composition, "The Five Days of Bleeding." Vive la difference.

On Our Rag is the dyke 'zine that over four issues has speculated on Pete Wilson's sex life, run "Pussynals," and founded the Aileen Wuornos Amazon Fan Club. These topics and more, but especially bleeding, are presented with a cheerful in-your-face irreverence. The women behind the *Rag* say they first put out the 'zine because they didn't see anything like it on the market. Now carried in bookstores across the country, including A Different Light and Old Wives' Tales, *On Our Rag* has put its own stamp (and lipstick prints) on the San Francisco lesbian scene.

On Our Rag owes something to the do-it-yourself philosophy of 'zines and to lesbian politics, but mostly to its founders' whims. The four women of the *On Our Rag* collective—Miriam, Crystal, Susan and Lisa—shed their anonymity for an evening to talk with *SF Bay Times*.

(SF Bay Times): What were your inspirations for doing On Our Rag?

(Susan) We got some from *Shocking Pink* [an English publication of juvenile humor for young women]. It wasn't the prototype, but I thought the menstrual thing was hilarious.

(Lisa) Besides the political reasons, it's a lot of fun.

(Miriam) Yeah, get it girl!

(Lisa) There's raunchy stuff, and you know people are going to laugh about it.

(Susan) Even that's political. These are the lesbian dyke sex '90s.

(Crystal) There's some sex, but it's not all serious.

(Lisa) People think we're sexy when we're trying to be funny.

How did you come up with the menstrual motif?

(Susan) That saying, "She must be on her rag," is synonymous with bitch. In this culture, a woman who says what's on her mind is a bitch. Women should bitch and rag and be strong. It's bleeding and the right to be out there and not be femme or nice.

(Lisa) If you're gonna be femme, do it because you wanna be and not because your husband buys you lipstick.

Do you care who reads On Our Rag*?*

(Susan) We make it a point to sell it in gay places.

(Crystal) Anyone can get it. We don't mind if gay boys read it.

(Miriam) They love the 'zine. They wish they were lesbians.

(Lisa) It has some crossover. It's a dyke 'zine, but it has a connection to women in general. Bleeding, for instance.

(Crystal) We're really promoting lesbianism here.

Do you think it appeals exclusively to youth?

(Susan) I felt comfortable targeting a younger audience.

(Crystal) Subconsciously, we're aiming at a target. It's funny and sexy. Older women can get it.

(Lisa) I've talked to older dykes. They think it's funny.

(Miriam) We're celebrating a certain kind of dyke lifestyle.

What role does feminism play in the Rag*?*

(Susan) We get a lot from the older generation. Feminism was an important thing. It doesn't mean what it used to mean. It's become tame.

(Miriam) We all have experiences with feminism. I'd say there's an infusion of feminism.

(Lisa) We couldn't do this without being feminists and being woman-positive. I think the *Rag* is feminist in the sense that we're talking about bleeding and dykes.

(Miriam) But moving from feminist to dyke.

(Crystal) I am beyond what feminist used to mean. It's taking on a new meaning. It can't be stagnant. Women want to keep feminism what it meant to them. That's why a lot of women don't want to call themselves feminists.

What do you mean by "dyke" 'zine?

(Miriam) We claim our own space—

(Susan) —for lesbians.

(Crystal) I don't apologize for being a lesbian. I'm not assimilating or being in the dominant culture.

(Miriam) That's it. It's not who we sleep with—we sleep with a lot of different people.

(Lisa) I speak as a bisexual woman. It's a dyke 'zine. I identify as a dyke. Whether I sleep with men is irrelevant.

(Crystal) I don't like the idea of us representing more than who we are. Just because I'm Black, I don't speak for other Black women—

(Miriam) (Snaps)

(Crystal) —It's just us speaking from our experiences and people out there finding commonality.

(Susan) We are who we are. I can't speak for women my age, but historically, I'm in the same place.

(Crystal) We deal with the same things. We have to deal with the fact that Bush is our President.

(Susan) We are located in this time. We're saying, "These are the '90s. We sleep with women."

Angels...

(continued from previous page)

ing in to his producer's demand that he conform to formula, has written a scene for Stone that is at odds with the detective's motivation. Stone steps out of the film, accosts his writer, and together they sing "You're Nothing Without Me," a brilliant duet pitting ego against alter ego, integrity against expediency. (In the musical's too pat ending, detective Stone must again step into reality and save the day for his embattled creator).

Cy Coleman's score and Davie Zippel's lyrics, if not particularly memorable, are clever and authentically period in mood and temperament. The only real ballad, "With Every Breath I Take," sung by Denniston, sounds much like any other "roadhouse" song from a '40s movie. Catherine Cox made much of her "other women" song, "You Can Count on Me," and Jeff McCarthy and Lauren Mitchell's "The Tennis Song," was volleyed with considerable sexual innuendo.

Robin Wagner's set, as integral to the musical as any of its characters, was designed around a series of fitted Chinese boxes that segued from reality to movie make-believe, from bedrooms and sleazy night clubs to a tycoon's solarium.

Larry Gelbart (*Mash* and *Tootsie*) wrote the book. Michael Blakemore directed. Paul Gallo and Florece Klotz may take their share of credit for lighting and costumes, respectively, in this handsome ensemble work.

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WELCOME TO ME

BY GGREG DEBORAH TAYLOR, O.S.

Drive Through Politics

When clean streets are a primary issue for a campaign, something is awry. San Franciscans seem to be forgetting their liberal Summer of Love-harvested roots, and are turning toward a re-emergence of the selfish, denial-ridden "Me," NIMBY school of thought.

The recent victory of Jordan over Agnos might spell a dark time for many San Franciscans. Bad Cop/No Donut, Peggy Sue, and similar queer nationals will find the door to Room 200 closed to them for the duration of Jordan's term, along with many of the city's supervisors who chose to support Agnos in his bid for mayor.

The Agnos "victory party" was near funereal in flavor, as supporters passed like zombies from table to table, munching on toasted frozen pizza slices and purple flavored drinks, while the dim election results were announced through the course of the evening. The only real excitement to be found at the event occurred in the bathrooms, which were converted into tea rooms by the overwhelmingly queer event-goers. Some things never change.

Not that the last of the campaign's dish has been swept under the carpet after the election. Frank Jordan's campaign made the mistake of using one of **Marc Geller**'s photographs in its campaign literature without permission or payment. Someone should discuss the ethical impropriety of this with Jordan's campaign manager **Jack Davis** during one of his visits to the QT.

SUPERSTAR HOUSEWIFE FACE FURNITURE EXPLORED

Luminary Australian personality and Superstar Housewife **Dame Edna** appeared last week to autograph her recently released book, *My Gorgeous Life*, at A Different Light, causing quite a stir in the Castro. A line of hundreds of "adorable little 'Frisco possums" (her pet name for her fans) passed through the door of the store and up the street, ironically blocking the entrance to the Castro Theatre.

Her chosen ensemble for the event was an exciting pair of rhinestone bedecked lensless glasses, which she referred to as "face furniture," and a tasteful separates combination featuring a fancy blazer covered with mouths. "It's my favorite orifice," she explained, referring to the jacket. "Now, if it were another orifice I might get arrested [for wearing it] on the street, mightn't I.

"Ooh! Aren't I spoiled" she cooed, receiving bouquet after bouquet of gladys from her patient fans, Dame Edna "pilgrims," many of whom had to wait upwards of an hour to grace her presence. Enjoying the book signing, and becoming more at ease with the crowd, she started offering insight into the life of a self-proclaimed Megastar Housewife. "They ask, 'Will you sign this scrap of dirty old paper.' Then they turn on you."

One-liners were tossed off incessantly by the purple doo'ed matron, responding to inquiries from her possums. Insider views into her celebrity relations were frequent offerings, noting, for instance, that Joan Rivers "hasn't spoken to me since I asked her if any of her bridesmaids were alive."

Photo by Marc Geller

Australian Superstar Housewife Dame Edna signs beloved possums' copies of her book, "My Gorgeous Life," as well as "dirty little scraps of paper" at A Different Light.

"It's my favorite orifice. Now, if it were another orifice I might get arrested on the street, mightn't I?"

Before departing, Edna imparted what she considered to be her most "precious, precious God-given gift: the ability to laugh at the misfortunes of others."

Leaving with a flourish of heartfelt goodbyes, she whisked out the door to her next appearance, instructing her assistant to deliver her "floral tributes" to the local hospice with her best wishes.

As for the vermillion which had been given to her, which she views as the bane of all houseplants, she suggested it be given to "that awful fellow, whatshisname on *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*."

STROKE

The current *Stroke Magazine* contains outtakes from **Alex Chee** and **Rachel Pepper's** zine *Queer City*, including my favorite quote: "If you meet someone named Gus, he tells you he runs a club and promises to put you on the guest list, bring $12 just in case."

Colossus is looking to become more freak friendly, and may be adding a "drag lounge" or some equivalent soon. Saturday, Dec. 21, they are threatening to bring in plastic ice and unleash former Ice Capades princess **Richie Rich**, skating about on a balcony, probably to the bewilderment of the crowd below.

Across town the same night as Richie's iceshtick, **The Sick and Twisted Players** will be performing ***The Shining, the Musical*** at Klubstitute, including such lyrical hits as "Hit the Road Jack," and Tony-the-Finger singing "Danny Boy." Be afraid.

Across all scenes, the town is abuzz after **Don Baird**'s recent drug etiquette article. Many among the eclectic mix of hets and homos gathered at the End Up at daybreak discussed the daring article, carrying it with them folded carefully for quick and convenient reference, and later refrigerator posting.

The article was humorous and cynical; how surprising for Don. Its tone and content challenged the politically correct, preachy and judgmental attitudes pervading the queer culture presently. Watch this and other local papers for appalled responses by the righteous who tend to view all statements as assertions of truth, and wish to quell divergences from their sense of what is right and proper (and who also tend to write letters to the editor more often than those further left).

DV8 is making an attempt to become more homo friendly. Traditionally, when times are hard, breeders stay home, while queers still go out and party their butts off. And ever-market-conscious **Dr. Winkie** has wisely hired the warm and wonderful **Tornado** to reign over his empire in an attempt to turn the club into an interesting place to patronize again.

Of course, queers with a clue *should* avoid the venue until Winkie hires new homo-sensitive security. The security staff for the club comes straight from monster truck shows, and exhibits bigger attitude than the staff of the Warfield. Osmosis is mounting *Big Drag City* on Dec. 19, which many will not attend because of the hired goons.

Due to failing attendance, few will be on hand to see **Pulse** fade into the disco sunset. **Mike&Lewis**' most recent foray into corporate clubdom is closing its doors, and the boys are threatening to launch *yet another* venue soon thereafter, reportedly with additional partner/DJ goddess **Nikki Rivera**.

Not that I would miss the tragic ending of a club for the world, however also Dec. 19 a party will be held to benefit **No Apologies/No Regrets** at Cafe San Marcos. The group provides legal support for those indicted in the protests surrounding the veto of AB101. The event will feature a multitude of luminary performers, including Tom Ammiano, Tribe 8, JUSTIN BOND, and Rachel Pepper, to name just a few. Spanning from 7 pm to 11 pm, it will be an entertainment marathon as only benefits can be.

Forever returning from the ashes, **Nancy Kravitz**'s ruling girl club, **Female Trouble**, is back for its monthly incarnation Dec. 29, featuring the reunion of the hard-hitting band Typhoon. Appearing at Brave New World on Fulton at Masonic, the party is themed "Phuck New Year's." How sweet. First on the once-a-night dyke scene, FT still rocks hardest, and should be marked prominently on the calendars of dykes starved for something tasty, especially in the present dearth of girl-based good times.

NEW YEAR'S: LIKE IT MATTERS, ANYWAY

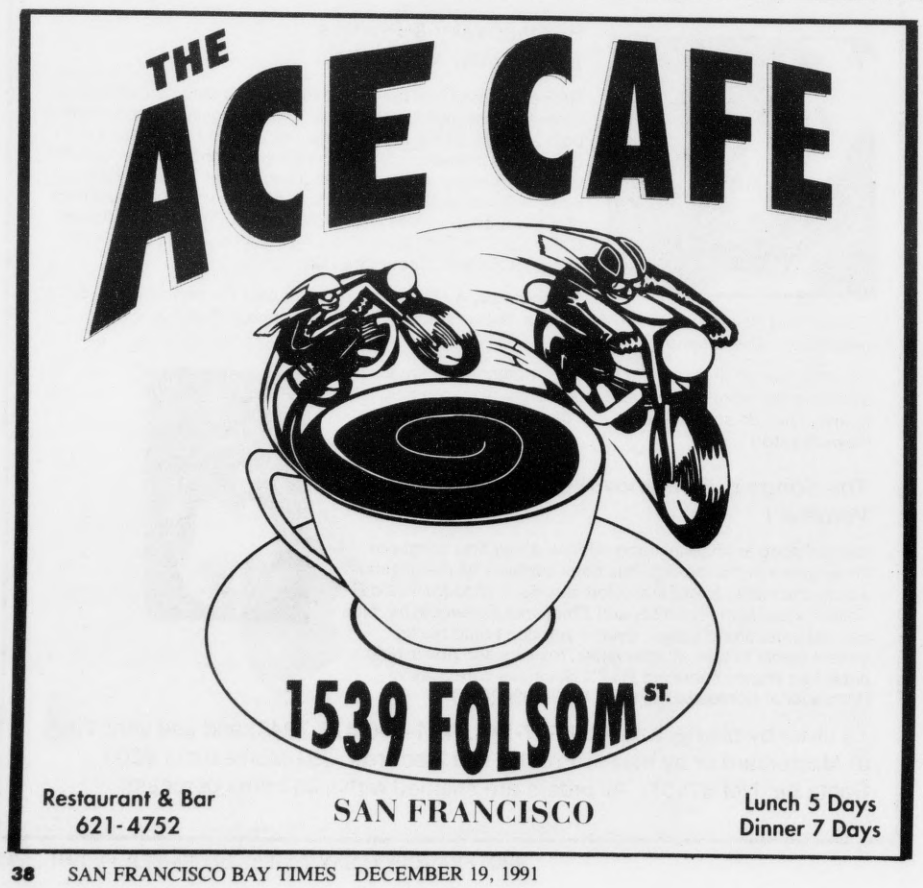
Entering the New Year's Eve party fray thus far are Colossus, Pleasuredome and Uranus, all promising large, exciting events. Uranus will weigh in at $5, with the other boy clubs coming in around the $20 mark, but providing more extravagant spectacles. The following morning Housing Project will open the End Up at 6 am and will be serving cocktails, seasoned with pounding disco.

Personally, I hate New Year's parties, but inescapably I will make appearances at five or six that night. During the holidays people feel they *must* have fun. At midnight across each timezone everyone will count down together to the ball drop, tense, expecting a better world at the dawn of the new year.

Each year as midnight approaches, I search out a corner to hide in, and stare at the floor, knowing that within moments their confetti will land, mixing with dirt and water below me, forming a paper-based variant of cement which will defy all modern cleansing agents.

I will stare blankly at my invariably unpolished shoes, probably platforms, and wonder why the world expects problems to be solved with the wave of a wand, or the drop of a ball. I will listen to the seemingly jubilant rabble and ask myself, are these the same people who think that cosmetic changes such as cleaner streets will solve the problems of homelessness, AIDS, drug addiction (see Dave Ford, *The Write Stuff*), and gang warfare?

Have leads, information, press releases, unconfirmable rumors, nude Polaroids? Address all correspondence to G. Deborah Taylor, c/o SF Bay Times.



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The SF Sheet Metal Local Union 104 Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for the Apprenticeship Training Program on a continuing year-round basis. Applications may be completed on the first Tuesday of each month (excluding holidays) from 8:30 am to 11:30 am at the SF Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104 Training Center, 1939 Market St, SF, CA. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age and have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Proof must be presented at the time of application. All applicants shall be required at time of dispatch to have a valid California's Driver's License with no major citations. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104 Training Fund, (415) 431-1676.

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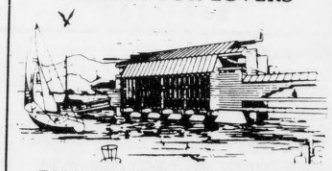

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Women Wanted to share beautiful Edwardian flat near Dolores Park. Personal/political consciousness, consideration, respect and spiritual awareness a must. Sorry, no smoke, meat, drugs, alcohol or pets. We are 1 dyke and 1 straightish woman, students, working and actively engaging in life. 1 permanent and 1 temp or part-time roommate (neg) and 1 sublet for January (1/1-2/1). Rent $335-$445. Avail. Jan 1. Pls call 864-2743.

Gorgeous, sunny top flat, HW, DW, pking, huge deck. 18th & Dolores. Lesbian, 39, entertainer, seeks dependable, mature, conscious roommate. $550. 863-6264.

Gorgeous, educated, curvacious leggy lesbian sought for kickass outer Noe pad. Share with two others: one lazy and vain, the other fragile and proud and private; both clean and way over their teens and mean, mean, mean when it comes to smoking, drugs and spankings. A bright intimate flat not suited to heavy social traffic, stompers or unweaned deadbeats. New appliances, sleek floors and modern furnishings. 824-1705.

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Oakland woman seeks roommate. Bedroom in large house near Mormon Temple. 2 bathrooms, deck, patio, view, fireplace, washer/dryer. $400. No smoking/drugs. 482-0509.

Diamond Heights: Gay professional wanted to share spacious, sunny home with panoramic view. We're a fun loving gay man and lesbian with 2 cats seeking a third person for three-story townhouse. We smoke but aren't put out if you don't. Fireplace, washer/dryer, dishwasher, AEK, garage. $533. Available Jan. 1. 285-6018.

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Jewish lesbian, 33; Irish lesbian, 43, w/cat; seek responsible, fun-loving housemate to share 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house in quiet, sunny, ethnic San Francisco neighborhood. Amenities include living room w/fireplace, W/D, large yard, garage space, security system, pleasant surroundings. No smokers/substance abusers. Pet considered. Available January 1. $440+ utilities. Shelley or Michelle, 641-0811.

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Couples Counseling. Counseling for lesbian couples. Conflict resolution, communication skills, intimacy issues. **Toni Heffernan, MFCC.** Berkeley or Benicia. (510) 357-5183 or (707) 745-0582.

Lesbians in Crisis. Insurance accepted, sliding scale. Older, caring lesbian therapist. Brief or long-term issues of relationship, anxiety, addiction, and personal growth. Bonnie Crosse, MFCC, EdD. Berkeley & SF. (510) 569-1258.

Transsexuals & Transvestites Individual, couple, & group consultation focusing on gender, self & social acceptance, coming out, cross-dressing, and whole-self integration. Call Gender & Self-Acceptance Program 558-8058.

Therapist Shopping Tip #1 "My last therapist was like a stone wall, she never smiled or laughed." You **are** seen and heard by a caring and warm professional. Working with: grief & loss, relationship & sex addiction, eating disorders, codependence, early sobriety, artists & creativity issues. **Suzanne R. Fried**, MFCC. #MFC28412. (510) 428-9397. SF & East Bay.

Feeling overwhelmed? Missing your life? **Marjory Nelson, PhD** is a compassionate, intuitive **hypnotherapist** with broad experience & a sense of humor. Sliding scale. 647-2845.

Chana Wilson, MFCC (MFC#28819). Supportive and in-depth therapy for individuals and couples: relationships; grief; life transitions; recovery from childhood abuse, addictions, and codependency; enhancing self-esteem and creativity. SF and Oakland. Insurance accepted. (510) 654-7560.

Experienced Therapist offers individual, couples and crisis counseling. Also issues related to bisexuality, AIDS, grief and loss. Wilma Bass, MFCC (#MA 021174). 821-1682.

Feminist Therapist: Through a down-to-earth approach in a supportive atmosphere, I offer short-term and in-depth counseling to individuals and couples. Sliding scale, insurance, Rockridge. **Barbara Kaimowitz, MFCC**. 547-2354.

SF Financial District-Psychotherapy for individuals and couples. Addressing anxiety, stress, depression, lack of meaning, career, co-dependence, drug/alcohol use, eating problems, AIDS, loss, sexuality, intimacy. Marilyn Girard, MFCC; 13 years experience. Insurance, sliding scale. SF and Berkeley. (415) 843-2998.

Do you feel stuck? Therapy for individuals and couples in a supportive atmosphere. **Mathile Rothschild, PhD, LCSW**. Specializing in healing the inner child, midlife, aging, AIDS, grief. SF. 826-6230.

Counseling in Walnut Creek Available to help you resolve problems with lovers, friends, or family; overcome loneliness and depression. Seek help now from experienced professional who understands and cares. Call Counseling and Education for Well-Being—938-7445.

Steady, Caring Lesbian therapist familar with life transitions, grief, relationship, substance abuse and recovery issues. Mary Butler, MFCC 28304., (510) 601-6445. Oakland & SF. SS $40-70.

Supportive Approaches to Self-Empowerment. Psychotherapy and consultation for lesbians and gay men with stress, relationship, family, codependency, recovery, abuse, incest, disability, HIV or sexuality issues. Experienced, licensed psychologist (PSY 10607). Castro area. Insurance accepted. **Diane Gray, PhD. 648-3883**.

Seeking an Interactive Therapist?. I am a gentle, down to earth and experienced therapist. I will listen to you with warmth and understanding. I will give you feedback. I especially enjoy working with codependency, intimacy and relationships, self-esteem, boundaries, getting in touch with feelings, and healing from childhood abuse, including incest. I am sensitive to people in recovery, East-West approaches, and newcomers to therapy. Convenient Noe Valley location. First session free. **Scott Eaton, MFCC** (#MFC23906). 648-6365.

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Pamela Ledgerwood, MFCC, specializes in transpersonal psychology, creative arts therapy, empowering women. Individuals, couples. Sliding scale. Marin. (415) 924-4852.

Lesbian Therapist who loves her work has times available for people seeking more satisfaction in their relationships, work, creativity, sexuality, or spirituality. I have 19 years experience in counseling, bodywork, and expressive arts. Call to talk: Sybil Meyer 658-0636 (MFCC #21672). East Bay.

Mary Paige, MFCC. Self-esteem, adoption, eating disorders, sexuality. Individual, couple & family work. SF and Oakland. Lic #MFC28004. 337-7005.

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Feminist Therapy Referral Project has been providing careful, confidential therapy referrals to East Bay women therapists since 1971. Sliding scale, insurance. Please call for an appointment. 843-2949.

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Couples Counseling. Lesbian therapist offering short-and-long term counseling for lesbian, gay and bisexual couples. **Deborah Yarock**, MFCCI #IMF19464. Supervisor, Annette Brands, MFCC #MI 19320. 905-5797.

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Gay Men's Therapy: ongoing group to address quality-of-life issues, self-esteem, relationships, fear of intimacy, depression, AIDS anxiety, internalized homophobia, codependency and other issues. Sliding scale/insur. Info: John Beeman, MA, MFCC (lic. MFC23838): 626-6196.

Partners of People with AIDS: Where does the caregiver go to meet **his** needs? A support & growth group for gay men whose lovers have AIDS. Gordon Murray, MFCC. 552-2801.

New Support Group Forming for Lesbian Partners and Lesbian Friends of Lesbians With Cancer. Share your thoughts and feelings with other lesbians who are experiencing cancer through their lover and close friends. For free. For more information call Women's Cancer Resource Center 548-WCRC.

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Ongoing Therapy Group for Gay Men from Dysfunctional Families. Call Dan Joy, LCSW (415), 285-6067 or Scott Madover, PhD, (415) 863-4806 for more information.

What about the rest of my life? Group forming for people 50 and older, facing transitions or losses (See listing in "Counseling & Therapy"). Also, two openings in ongoing Tuesday evening group for women 30 and above. **Jeanne Adelman (415) 585-0666**.

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WOMEN

Do You Know
or are you—a lesbian close to or between 60-80, bright, lively, aware, independent yet able to love intimately, looking for a friend, lover, life-partner or all three? Or similar nonlesbian who wonders whether lesbians know something she doesn't know yet? I am active, affectionate, intellectual, uncloseted, Jewish, feminist, antiracist, mid-sized, not femme but womanly. Self-employed, hoping to ride out recessionitis and keep my toe-hold in the middle class. Reasonably healthy, reasonably good-looking. Like music, jazz best. Love dancing. Blessed with many friends, single over five years, ready to couple but not in a hurry. All races and sizes have their own beauty in my eyes and, I hope, in yours. If you know someone, encourage her to write, or write about yourself. I'll answer all letters that include good information. Reply BT Box DC1B.

Great-Looking Older Woman
GJWF. I am very attractive, youthful looking, although mature woman. Slender, dark compection, light eyes. Determined to stay healthy, chic, loving and adventuresome. Ready to meet someone after a tedious 15-year relationship. You should love music, theatre, photography, movies, cafes, travel, pets and be well-read. Looking to meet someone to share my interests, and companionship. Let's start with, maybe a nice dinner together, and go from there. PO Box 425, Corte Madera 94976-0425.

Muchachas!
Latin gal wants to meet other Latin gals for fun and especially friendship. Age is not important but you must be very outgoing, fun and open to new adventures. Espero que nos divertamos. Hasta pronto. Reply BT Box DC2B.

East Bay
Mid-40s, clean and sober, nonsmoker recently moved to Bay Area looking for friends—maybe more—who are stable and responsible. Enjoy eating out, movies & outdoor activities. Call ★★4909.

Holiday Cheer
Cute, fun, but slightly non-assertive woman looking for someone to spend some holiday cheer on. Dinner and dancing for Christmas or New Year's Eve. Let's celebrate and just have a good time. Please be thin, attractive and femme. I like a woman who knows what she wants and can be assertive. No drugs, smokers. Light drinkers OK. Reply BT Box DC3B or call ★★4910.

Exceptional Feminine Woman
I am looking for a beautiful woman, 25-36, who is sophisticated, full of joie de vivre and as creative and intellectually bright as great to look at for a friendship and/or romantic relationship. I offer no less and in addition, am honest, more than financially stable, well-educated, a visual and auditory sensualist, warm, kind and can cook. Bonus points given to artists, Italiophiles, ex-homecoming queens, Oxford Dictionaries and camping equipment. No smoking, drugs, heavy drinking or more than five years of therapy please. Reply BT Box DC4B.

Butch Wants Femme For Hot Erotic Sex
Let's take it slow. I like to talk too! Baby don't be scared! Maybe we'll form an ongoing companionship. Lady I really need your touch. Let me strap it on and give it to you. Let's play. Let's get to know each other. You are pretty, femme in dress & nature; age 18 to 35. Me: butch; age 40, 150 pounds, 5'4". No drugs/alcohol. Lady, I need your sweet love tonight! Call ★★4911.

Are You
a femme dyke with brains, opinions and enthusiasm? Let's talk. I am butch, fast approaching 30, and an East Bay resident. I'm smart, funny, tall, interested in many different things, especially nature (extra points for those who appreciate newts and tarantulas). Let's hike, eat out, go to the movies or a museum and find out if the chemistry is right. Reply BT Box DC5B or call ★★4912.

Eccentric Millionaire
Breeds racing snails, mismatches socks, loves children's books, bagpipes, thunderstorms, Motown, Reid Fleming, feminine petite blondes, anything bizarre. Dislikes: politics, tofu, fish, intolerance. I have enough friends and commitments. I'm looking for a free-spirited romance, safe sex and intimacy with no strings attached. Over 30, smokers okay, no drinkers or druggies. Alright, so I'm not a millionaire, but I sure got your attention and that's a start. Write me. Reply BT Box DC6B.

I Want Your Sex!
George Michael was bold enough to sing about it and I'm bold enough to ask for it. Seeking clean, disease-free, feminine, big-boobed, cute-assed, horny, sexually imaginative and creative beauty, 35-40, for mutually satisfying encounters when we choose. No heavy commitments or relationships! No druggies, heavy boozers, kooks or emotional cripples. Prefer blondes and red-heads over 5'7" with "mean" curves and racy lingerie. Call ★★4913.

Tender, Ruthless Femme
seeks androgyne slut to indulge in sweet, sleazy games far into the wee hours. Do you consider your entire body an erogenous zone? Can you laugh and lust simultaneously? If so, come play with me! Stamina/erotic curiosity a must. Call ★★4914.

Romantic Friendship Desired
BiWF, 31, married with attention and affection to spare. Passionate about food, movies, attractive women over 5'6", and passion itself. Call ★★4915.

Can Romance Blossom Over 50?
I am a stable professional woman in her early fifties in search of a committed relationship. I own a home in the East Bay hills and enjoy cooking, sipping wine on the deck, and sitting by the fireside. I also enjoy the opera, romantic dinners, walks on the beach, and traveling. I am known to be intelligent, kind, compassionate, and have a good sense of humor. I am looking for someone similar who is slender and in her forties or fifties. I am a smoker but am willing to quit for the right person. Reply BT Box DC7B.

To The Woman Who Called "Congenial S!ob"
Please call again! You sounded like a seriously funny and neat and boffo person, but you didn't leave your phone number, and I'd very much like to meet you. You're right about the cats. I wasn't expecting them to get along right away anyway; I just didn't want some hateful hostile psycho-cat from hell moving in and making my kitty unhappy. PS, I'm not looking for a lover or anything. That's not what this is about. I'm just interested in meeting the bizarre funny woman who called a total stranger to give advice about her cat. Call ★★4916.

Someone Special
Tired of meager portions? Try a generous woman! 5 foot, 220 lbs, (I'm much thinner in person). 47 y.o., energetic, fun to be with, upbeat, alive! Voracious appetite for life, love, food and you, my someone special. Together we can share a little bit of all there is in life and be happy too! Nonsmoker preferred. My cat and I await you... Call ★★4917.

Turn Up The Heat
I'm looking for couples interested in spicing up their sex lives by adding a third dimension, me! SWL, 5'6, 135#, in decent shape wants to fulfill the three-way fantasy with other discreet, fun, attractive and sexual women. Nothing heavy or permanent. Pls. no drugs/alcohol. Just looking for good, safe, clean fun. Call ★★4918.

Let's Feel Good
I am in my late 40s, attractive, professional, fit, serious about certain things, and fun loving about most of life. I like to feel good and prefer people in my environment to have similar qualities which I pride in myself, such as liking themselves, being respectful of others, communicative, pushing through limitations, honesty & non-role playing. I enjoy hiking, two-stepping, reading, socializing, learning, theater, movies, comedies. If you want to experience great emotional, intellectual and sensual experiences reply BT Box DC8B or call ★★4919.

What I Want Out Of Life
is love, healing and passionate touch, soulmate/life partner, deep communication, willingness and ability to talk through issues and go to deeper realms of self, life and love. I am fat, attractive, 38, healing profession. Searching for someone who connects with these words. Extra plus for someone who has been in, or is in therapy. Loves: nature, animals, children. I am planning a family soon. I am not concerned with perfection but insist on honesty and someone who is emotionally and physically available. Mail preferred, voice mail accepted. Reply BT Box DC9B or call ★★4920.

Seeking The Rarest Of Lesbians
Whole, grounded, feminine. Not afraid to give as well as take. Going for the ultimate energy flow between 2 women. Emotionally open, available, & comfortable with intensity; sexually diverse. Has worked on her stuff & believes in relationship as a process; physically fit, enjoys outdoors, romantic evenings together; seeks ultimate commitment to our growth—together & separately; no smoking or drugs; wine with dinner. I live on Peninsula and am willing to travel. Call ★★4921.

East Bay Only
Divorced white female. 5'0, 108#, salt & pepper hair, 49 y.o., straight-acting and appearing. Discretion is very important. Looking for friendship and possible intimacy with another loving, honest, caring and emotionally available female. I like long walks on the beach, the zoo, hobbies, flea markets and cuddling. Returnable photo please. I live in San Leandro. Occupant, PO Box 10966, Oakland 94610 or call ★★4922.

Quality Woman Seeks Same
Attractive, feminine, petite snuggler with great sense of humor seeks attractive, feminine friend/lover (45-55). I value good communication, an open mind and a generosity of spirit. Reply BT Box DC10B.

Escapades
29 y.o. mature, passionate, fun-loving GBF seeks other (any race). I love walks, picnics, garage sales, going to A's games, and bowling. I like to get away from City life occasionally and would like to take you with me through the woods, to the beach, near a lake or on a hilltop. I'm into emotionally stable, intelligent women who love to have fun. Not into smokers, drug users or heavy drinkers. Call ★★4923.

All I Want For Christmas...
Are you: Attractive? Comfortable in Levis or lingerie? Not into roles? Employed? Into road trips, not head trips? Do you like: Good conversation? Making love instead of "having sex?" Candlelit bedrooms? Sunsets? Shopping at The Gap? Laughing? Wine in bed? Do you mind: A considerate smoker? A moderate partier? Cats? If this sounds good to you, then this 27 yo blonde Sag. w/a killer smile and great eyes would love to meet you. My friends keep saying I'm too nice to be so single, but I'm too shy to meet people when I'm out. Help me out by calling or writing. Reply BT Box DC11B or call ★★4924.

An Obedient Little Girl
is lurking inside this butch bottom and wants someone's undivided attention. Seeking Dyke Top to introduce her to her Daddy. Pain and Humiliation are eagerly suffered when administered by a guiding hand that knows I'm someone special. Be severe, yet affectionate, and I'll be good. Be exacting, demanding, experienced, and I'll do anything to gain your approval. Looking for a playmate, not a lover or ego-tripper. Reply BT Box DC12B.

Exceptional Women Do
sometimes find each other! Are you bored by most people? Do you long for intellectually challenging, witty conversation, as well as hot sex with a great lover? Wouldn't it be great if you could find both in just one woman, a lesbian who's taken care of her mind as well as her body? I'm a 40 year old renaissance lesbian with diverse interests & a sense of adventure. If this is your fantasy, too, call me for details! Younger women are welcome, & older, good-looking women are always appreciated. Box 117045, Burlingame 94011 or call ★★4925.

Smart Sexy Dyke Lover
Can we laugh, dance and talk together with our eyes on only each other? Would you like to learn safe lesbian sex techniques and explore our mutual interest in experimentation of light S/M play? Do you long for a hot, aggressive womyn who will satisfy your desire to be taken? Androgenous a plus. Attitude and looks most important. 30s or 40s please. Make my year! Reply BT Box DC13B or call ★★4926.

c/o Frankie
Baby—I still have that Big Red Truck for you to ride in, glide in and maybe later I'll slide in...to a spot where we can watch those submarine races. I'm glad you're my girl. Love, your favorite hip movin' gal, Johnny.

Lights! Camera! Action!
Black lesbian actress, 33, clean/sober, enthusiastic, positive, passion for life, athletic, love to sing and dance. I'm actively persuing my childhood dream of acting on TV/films and I'm on my way to Hollywood! Looking for lesbian, any race, who dreams of acting in Hollywood. Let's go to Hollywood together and realize our dreams. Friendship first and lovers if it's meant to be. I have big dreams. I hope you do too. (PS—Pls. no smokers!) Peace. Reply BT Box DC14B or call ★★4927.

Believe In Goddess And Miracles
39-yr-old woman seeks a warm, nurturing, fun loving woman for friend or possible relationship—I like the outdoors, walking, dancing, camping, etc. (possibly bungie jumper and balloonist). Have desire to move to Southern California, specifically L.A. Interested in being in acting, TV, sequels. If you are interested in adventure and possible lover, blonde/blue eyed one, reply and you will be answered. I am also seeking someone interested in computer graphic arts (I need a teacher)—would be a plus. Reply BT Box DC15B or call ★★4928.

Truth In Advertising
I am 5'9", fit, 41, stable but definately not stagnant, racially mixed, physically attractive, etc., etc. Looking for an attractive, intelligent, slender, femme-of-center, friendly lover to share almost anything except "long walks on the beach." You should be partial to comedy clubs, motorcycles, metaphysics, spirituality, kissing, reading in bed and lots of breathtaking sex. Prefer lesbian, nonsmoker, young in body & spirit, who's still willing to take a few risks in life & love. Call ★★4929.

Soft Butch Seeks Tomboy Bottom
for urban adventures: movies, dancing, motorcycling & more. I am 40, fit, Indian/Spanish mix. Desire mature 35-45 yr. lesbian, nonsmoker, with a sense of humor and her own car. Race not important. Call ★★4930.

SF Bay Times is Now Published Every Other Thursday!!

Next Deadline for Personals, Calendar and Classifieds: Dec. 27. (Next issue: Jan. 2)

Dykes To Watch Out For

PRIORITY MAIL
OUR TRIBADIC TRIO HAS JUST RETURNED HOME FROM THEIR VARIOUS PLACES OF EMPLOY.
©1991 BY ALISON BECHDEL
DID YOU SEE THE SUNSET? IT WAS SPECTACULAR!
UNH-UH.
WHINE!
THE BUS WAS SO JAMMED I COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING.
WANNA GO OUT, PUP?
ONE PHONE BILL, 6 NOT-FOR-PROFIT DONATION REQUESTS, AND 12 MAIL-ORDER CATALOGS FOR YOU...
ONE CREDIT CARD BILL, 2 AMAZING OFFERS AND 12 IDENTICAL MAIL-ORDER CATALOGS FOR ME...
THICK, PATCHOULI-SCENTED ENVELOPE AND A HEFTY, CAREFULLY WRAPPED PACKAGE FOR YOU.
BE STILL MY HEART.
IT'S NOT FAIR, GINGER! YOU HAVEN'T HAD ONE PIECE OF JUNK MAIL IN MONTHS!
YEAH, OR ANY CAR TROUBLES, OR WORK CRISES OR ZITS EITHER! AND YOUR PMS HAS VIRTUALLY DISAPPEARED.
SHRED!
I WISH I WAS IN LOVE.
WHAT'D SHE SEND THIS TIME? KIWI-FRUIT BATH GEL? GODDESS-SHAPED CHOCOLATES? CRYPTIC-LOOKING VIBRATOR ATTACHMENT?
STUFFED DATES, INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED IN FUSCHIA TISSUE! AND A PHOTO!
SEE? HERE SHE IS! THIS IS MALIKA!
GINGER, WHAT A BABE! I MEAN, UM.. SHE LOOKS SO CALM AND CENTERED!
WHOA! SO WHEN'S SHE COMING?
SOON AFTER SHE GETS HERE, I HOPE.

If you see an ad with "Call ★★" dial 1-900-844-2GAY

ONLY 96¢ a minute!

Notice to Call Star Advertisers:

Please Record Your Greeting Now! They're waiting to hear your voice! Call 415-291-9678

Read Ads But Don't Reply?
So do I. Tall, slim, beautiful women should respond. I may have already met you or even danced with you but it's awkward to try to get to know someone at bars. Please be attractive, witty and kind. Don't be jaded, arrogant or addicted to anything. I'm 27 with a great body, good career and nice friends. I'm ready for romance, or sex, or friendship. Call ★★4931.

MoonShot
Sane yet sentimental, constitutionally cynical yet pathologically pleasant, insatiably curious, imaginative, darkly good-looking, emotional and intelligent, incurably romantic, unquestionably devoted and ardent a lover, friendly, funny, French, forty and fey, solvent, sensual and cerebral, aesthetically attuned, unflinchingly honest, dignified yet playful, compassionate, optimistic, and unpretentious as I am, I'd like you to be or at least understand just 3/4 of all that. Love it if you are compassionate, intelligent, feminine-assertive (I am), honorable, lovely inside and out (voice, hands, eyes, movement, attitude), 40-50, nonsmoking, light drinking, gainfully occupied/financially stable and emotionally available (they don't always go together...), a SF or nearby resident, and either funny yourself or willing to occasionally laugh at my droll jokes. Next, I'd like both of us to expect diversity, honesty, humor, challenge, and passion from each other, to develop intimacy and eventual commitment with the possibility of a future move to the country. Naturally, we share the un/usual common interests. So last but not least, let's shoot for the moon. This may be asking a lot but why not really gift ourselves in '92??? There's no better time to begin than at the beginning. Reveal something essential about yourself when you write to me: c/o Boxholder, PO Box 460825, SF 94146-0825.

The Difference Between Single And Alone
is friends, and I feel one can't have enough good friends. But I also miss having someone special in my life (my fault for being too busy). So I'm learning to slow down and smell the roses, and would like to meet someone who feels the same. I like photography, candlelight, sports, outdoors, music, singing and songwriting, sounds and mist of the ocean, motorcycles, cooking, good conversation and great laughter. I'm 36, 5'7", good-looking, heavyset but athletic and reclaiming my fitness (by playing softball in the GSL, swimming, golf, walking), intelligent, funny, kindhearted, romantic, have strong hands (love to give/receive massage), and love the colors teal, purple and black (sometimes all together!). Are you 27-40, nonsmoker, light drinker, live in SF (or close), and want to start the new year exploring new friendship, romance and other adventures? Pick up your pen or phone for starters and let's start by being friends and get to know each other! Reply BT Box DC16B or call ★★4932.

Seriously Seeking Someone To Share With...
I'm discreet, attractive, youthful 52 y.o., well adjusted, fit and healthy, but in need of a warm and loving femme—age 45-60 for a caring and sharing relationship. You should like books, music, movies, dinners out, travel...as well as quiet close times, drives in the country and walks at the ocean—and must be a NON-smoker. Reply BT Box DC17B or call ★★4933.

Bookish
Lesbian, 40ish, seeks same. Take a leaf from my book and I'll tickle your spine! Reply BT Box DC18B or call ★★4934.

Social Social Social
And if you're not forget it! I'm looking for a drop-dead handsome soft-butch who's read chapter one. Must be a fabulous fashion plate with the bucks to back it. I just want to play all the time. No organized sports please. I'm sick of being a cheerleader! Reply BT Box DC19B or call ★★4935.

I'm A Nerd...
Computer nerd, that is. And sometimes it gets lonely. Looking for companions to share my Macintosh experiences. Timbuktu to my hard disk, or check out my floppies. If you like to Excel, this could be the MacWrite ad for you to answer. Haven't you always wondered whether to MacPaint or Canvas. Respond for all the answers. Even nerds need socializing and fun! Reply BT Box DC20B or call ★★4936.

Bright And Sexy
Women turn me on! Professional GWF, early 40s seeks the companionship of a very special sensual, attractive, and bright womanly woman. Open to friendship, relationship, or whatever develops naturally. Radical liberals, blue collar types, butches, addicts & 12 steppers read on! Call ★★4937.

Hurray For Hollywood
Yes! I'm the one going to Hollywood in the other ad. A few things I forgot: I love hip-hop, reading. Have an exuberant personality, am loveable, love lots of hugs/kisses. Very down-to-earth person. Very much involved in the community. Hope you are, too. Caring/passionate/great sense of humor, and too legit to quit! Let's go for it and take Hollywood by storm. Reply BT Box DC21B or call ★★4938.

Yenta Made Me Do This
because it's free...are you free too? Professional GWF loves to spend time enjoying The City and would like to meet same for friendship and more? No 12-steppers please. Be prepared for interrogation by my twelve beautiful professional buddies. Let's have fun! Reply BT Box DC22B or call ★★4939.

Sex! Sex! Sex!
You want it, I got it. Nice girls only, please. Professional—bizarre sense of humor. Due for a promotion. Hangs out with reputable characters. Never pulls out the eyelashes of kittens. Brilliant—thrown out of Mensa. Wears 7½ size shoe. No alcoholics or Buddhists. Can I buy you a drink or would you rather have the money? Reply BT Box DC23B or call ★★4440.

English Babe Undergrad At Mills
Turned down by professors—in need of private tutor. Tests well and wants to be tested more. No examination too difficult. P.S. My lover isn't thrilled about this but what she doesn't know won't hurt her, right? Reply BT Box DC24B or call ★★4441.

To The DeltaSluts
Thank you, Thank you—Thank you. The Fox. Call ★★4442.

Bi
BISEXUAL

Treated Like Princess
if right match for loving, zestful couple comprising bisexual WF, 32, and hetero (but bi-friendly) WM, 27. We have an excellent 6-year, committed relationship and you could be a fully integrated part of it (full member of threesome, not "third wheel" or "plaything"). Explore the possibilities with two affectionate, playful, attractive, very romantic, passionate people who want to shower you with love, tenderness, massage, romance and all-over kisses, plus plan our future together. We are enthusiastic, easygoing, enjoy humor, good communication, creativity, honesty, sensuality, joie de vivre. Some interests: creative romance, hot springs, gardening, traveling, sailing, nude recreation, hiking, gourmet cooking, dancing, arts, singing, massage, erotica, science fiction, photography, theater, tropical islands, cafes. Seeking vivacious, affectionate nonsmoker, very comfortable expressing emotions, who, like us, thinks life is beautiful. "Don't dream it—be it!" PO Box 12544, Berkeley 94701 or call ★★4961.

Looking For A Partner
Bi WM looking for Bi Female. I'm outdoor-oriented, physically active, 50 years young, 6'1", 180 lbs., partially bald, brn/brn, cleanshaven, recently divorced, drug/disease free. Looking for companion for dinner, dates, possible relationship. Prefer tall weight proportionate to height. Age, race not important. Call ★★4956.

Rubber Galore
Affluent European gentleman 50s, well-educated, now retired in California seeks others of similar status who love rubberwear. I have large wardrobe of rubber and am free to travel anywhere, anytime. Replies from couples and females also invited. If you are dominant and enjoy S/M activities, this would be a plus. Reply BT Box DC300B or call ★★4957.

A Genuine Bi-Proposal
Ardent bisexual lady seeks attractive, evolved, feminine companion to form loving, harmonious union with extraordinary male associate. Please be sensual, cerebral, curious, refined and partial to sailing, cycling, Asian traditions, compassion, wisdom and unrelenting love. POB 20544, Oakland 94620 or call ★★4958.

Boy Seeks Girl
interested in parenting/marriage: 36, healthy, handsome; responsible; independent, emotionally and financially stable, gay-identified, enjoy cafes, bookstores, thrift stores, looking for female—independent, attractive, healthy, financially stable. Are you as weary as me of restrictive role expectations, labels, borrowed rituals? Let's define another type of relationship. What do you want? What can you give? What do you need? Box 421557, SF 94102 or call ★★4959.

Submissive Bottom
Bi WM 50s, 120 lbs., 5'5", slim, trim and smooth seeks dominant, masculine Bi top. You should be healthy, a professional or executive and want a feminine response from me in our privacy. Call ★★4960.

Married Bisexual And Gay Men
Married bisexual man would like to meet other bisexual or gay men who are or were married. I would like to know how you can balance both sides of your sexual nature while being married. Reply BT Box DC301B.

S
SHARED INTEREST

Two-Step Partner
I'm a lesbian, wanting an intermediate level lesbian dance partner or buddy to go out dancing at the Rawhide & Corral with. Prefer a leader who sometimes likes to follow but am flexible. I am 40, very friendly, and have quite a varigated background. Call soon. Call ★★4976.

Lovers Of The Grape!
Lesbian couple with an interest in wine and conversation seeks fellow sniffers 'n tasters. Plans include informal tasting group, dinners, trips to Napa/Sonoma and local tasting bars. If you are casual, non-snobbish and can appreciate the $5.99 bin special as well as fine cabernet, give us a call. Let's leave Robert Parker in the dust! No alcohol abusers, please. Call ★★4977.

World Bicyclist
Seeking companions for mountain bike touring in 3rd world countries. Costa Rica: Feb-March. Ladakh, Zanskar (Tibetan kingdoms now in India) in July-Aug. Cross passes to 16000 feet. Visit monasteries. Possibly also tour in Malaysia, hike in Nepal. Open to other places, times. Go to most expensive hotels, only $5/day at most town of 3rd world! Write "World Bicyclist," 131 Berkeley Square #291, Berkeley 94704.

Looking For A Co-Parent Or Known Donor?
A group is forming for you to meet lesbians and gay men who are seeking to get involved in a co-parent or known-donor situation. It will be both a social group and discussion group where you can discuss your hopes, desires and fears of children and family. PO Box 14911, Berkeley 94701 or call ★★4985.

Wrestling Parties
No sex or money involved, just good, rough, sweaty on-the-mat workouts with other strong, aggressive athletes into freestyle, no-holds-barred, pro, catch-as-catch-can wrestling, one-on-one, tag teams, great fun! Age, race, size unimportant—but no spectators or fantasy freaks—honest, competitive wrestlers only! See you on the mat! Call ★★4978.

Running In Berkeley
I love my daily runs but would like to have some company. I run 7-9 mins/mile x 5 miles or so, early am's; longer and slower on weekends; occasional fast intervals; sometimes with FrontRunners. I am 45, 6', 163#, balding, HIV –, athletic and I live in North Berkeley. Write PO Box 9056, Berkeley, 94709 or call ★★4979.

Pressure Cooker Luck
Seeking others who wish to share macrobiotic meals on a regular basis, as in doing potluck dinners at our homes. I have a very wide definition of macrobiotic, am a mid-thirties queer guy, and prefer people in geographically close areas of SF (Mission, Bernal Heights, Noe Valley, Castro, etc.). Beginners OK. Reply 2215-R Market St., #168 or call ★★4980.

Bi/Gay Men's Abuse Survivors Group
I would like to form a group in which men who have survived childhood emotional, physical, and/or sexual abuse can support each other in uncovering the past, coping with the present, and building a future. Please send a list of times at which you can meet and some method of contacting you to: PO Box 7881, Berkeley 94707.

Bicycling
I like weekend bicycle rides: locally, 15-20 mph x 10-40 miles; occasionally, out of town for longer distance tours (esp. in warmer seasons). Also do some workouts like speeding up Mt. Tam or to Inspiration Point in Tilden. I am 45, 6', 163#, HIV –, balding, athletic, and live in Berkeley. When I can't do the Different Spokes ride, I'm on my own. Like some company? Please write: PO Box 9056, Berkeley 94709 or call ★★4981.

Ski Buddies
East Bay lesbian downhill skier seeking other lesbian ski buddies for weekend Tahoe trips. I am happily married to a cross-country skier and need to get that speed, adrenaline, and wind-in-my-hair feeling a few times this season. My skis are ready, anyone want to join me? Call ★★4982.

Lesbian Cum E-Z Group
Starting up after the holidays! Call now! Old members call back for new information. Let's share our feelings, experiences & desires about the concept of lesbian sexual gratification—including quickie or anonymous sex, bar pickups, sex ads, lesbian escort services, sex outside of monogamy. This group is open to all lesbians to discuss the idea of lesbian sex & lesbian sex services. Do we cheat each other by not having access to it? Call ★★4983.

Classical Musicians—Sightreaders
Patient, kind, sensitive professional accompanist/voice coach seeks other capable instrumentalists/singers for informal, artistic (but lighthearted) music-making. If you are a careful, thoughtful musician (who may have "blocks") who needs a like-minded friend to share with, you owe it to yourself to explore this opportunity. Let's chat! (I have a fine piano and transportation.) Call ★★4984.

Recent College Alums
I'm a 23-year-old lesbian new to SF who graduated from an East Coast women's college last May. I'm interested in meeting other recent college grads to compare experiences in the "real world" and to hang out with. I'm low-key with a good sense of humor. I enjoy exploring the Bay Area, going to cafes, reading and taking long walks. Call ★★4986.

M
M E N

Hungry For Super Hung
guys over 30. Race, size, looks completely unimportant. All that matters is that your cock be way oversized! Love deep throating and taking good care of enormous endowments. I'm a kinky, hot, HIV+ 5'10", 28 yo QWM, 210 humpy lbs, with long black hair needing to slide your big, throbbing tool down my eager throat. Think I can't? Reply BT Box DC70B. Your dirty photo gets mine (returned).

Wanted Positive Positive
Wanted someone to share love, life, happiness, sadness and all the in betweens. GWM, HIV+, 29, 5'10", 155 lbs., healthy, masculine, preppie, professional, lover of life, dabbles in meditation, self-healing, nutrition, exercise. Wishes to connect with a similar man who possesses a positive attitude, enjoys life and knows how to be himself. Call ★★5012.

North Bay Relationship Wanted
Handsome GWM, 34, 185#, 6'1, curly dark brown hair, trimmed beard, blue eyes. Irish professional, fun loving, outgoing, very healthy HIV+. Tired of bar crowd. Seeks relationship with someone of similar physical and chronological stats, who is also stable and emotionally mature. Prefer nonsmoker who is as comfortable in a suit as in leather/Levis. Appearance-wise, considered a top; actually, sexually versatile and prefer bottom. Varied interests including cooking, theater, travel, hiking, reading, country living and fine wine. Reply BT Box DC71B or call ★★5013.

Hung And Horny
and hungry for hot head. Also healthy and happy. Me: 5'9", 160 lbs., brown/blue, 'stache, 47, and very well-endowed. I'm cultured and natured, like words and deeds; minds and bodies; talk, walks, and sex. You: hairy chested and dark skinned perhaps? Lively, original, keen? Surprise me! Seek sexual friendship, open to more. Reply BT Box DC72B or call ★★5014.

Latin Sex Mate
Seek Black or Latin men for long, hot sex sessions. I'm 32 yrs., 5'10", 150 lbs., black hair/moustache, bottom. I enjoy hot, naughty (but safe) sex. Write me "Naughty Latino", Box 107, 560 Mission, SF 94105-2921 or call ★★5015.

Practicing Emotional Availability
is difficult when there's no one to practice with! GWM, 39, look 29, 5'9", Brn, Brn, slender, cleanshaven, hung, sincere, HIV+, emotiOnally recovering from dysfunctional relationships as well as drugs & alcohol. Would like to date people under 35 for eventual intimacy. I'm sexually versatile and have many interests: gym, photography, macintosh. You should be very cute or handsome, semi-jock type, physically fit, HIV+, under 35, in recovery, employed, hung, & looking for people to be friends first. Should be great sex, as I am (even though it has been ages) Call ★★5022.

Tall "All-American" Type
GWM, 29, 6'5", 200 lbs, brown hair, green eyes, colligiate, athletic type, masculine, professional, successful, fun guy. HIV –. Seeks similar guy who enjoys: the gym, progressive music, weekend getaways and shares a good sense of humor and a positive outlook on life. I live an hour (east) from San Francisco (own a house in the "burbs"). Looking forward to the possibilities! Call ★★5023.

FREE Personals in January.

SEE PAGE 51

The Best Places to Meet Gay Women!
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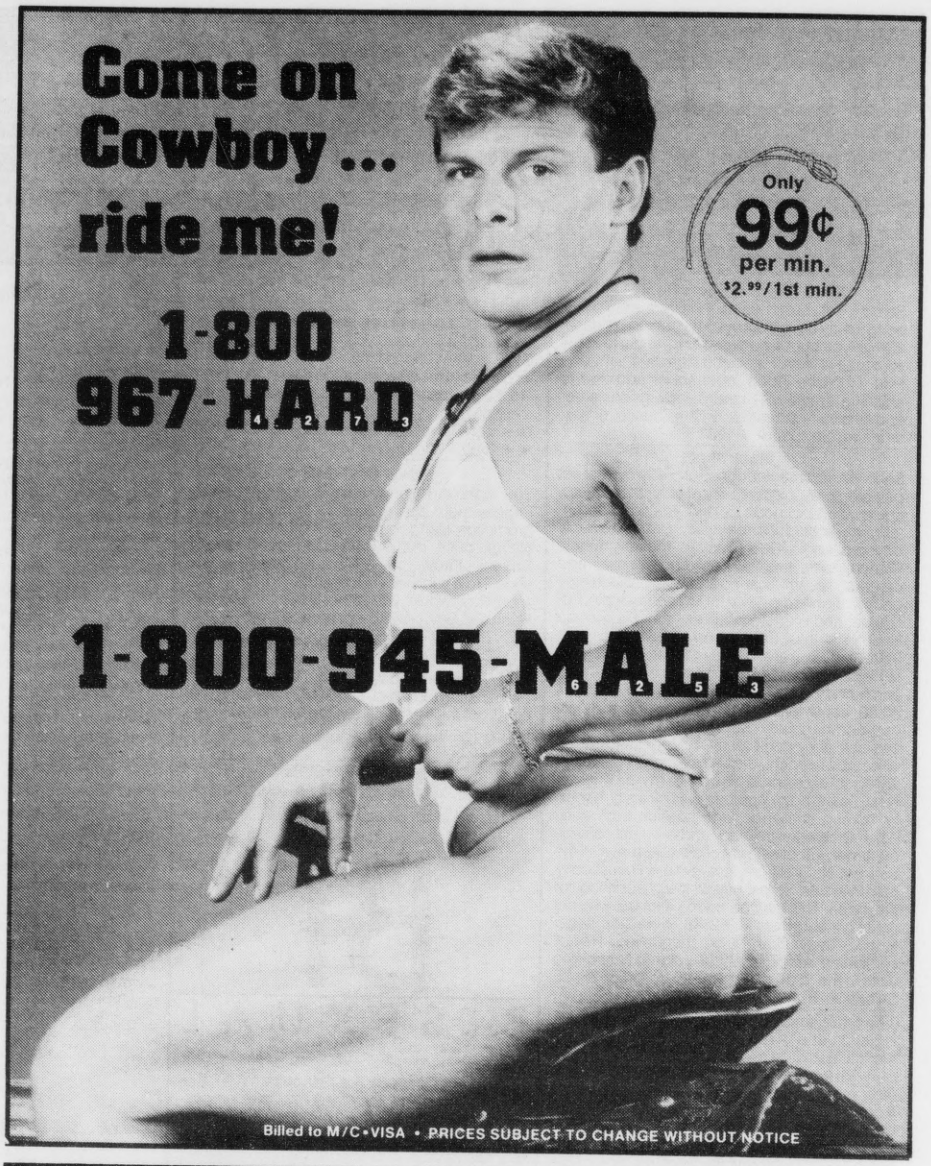
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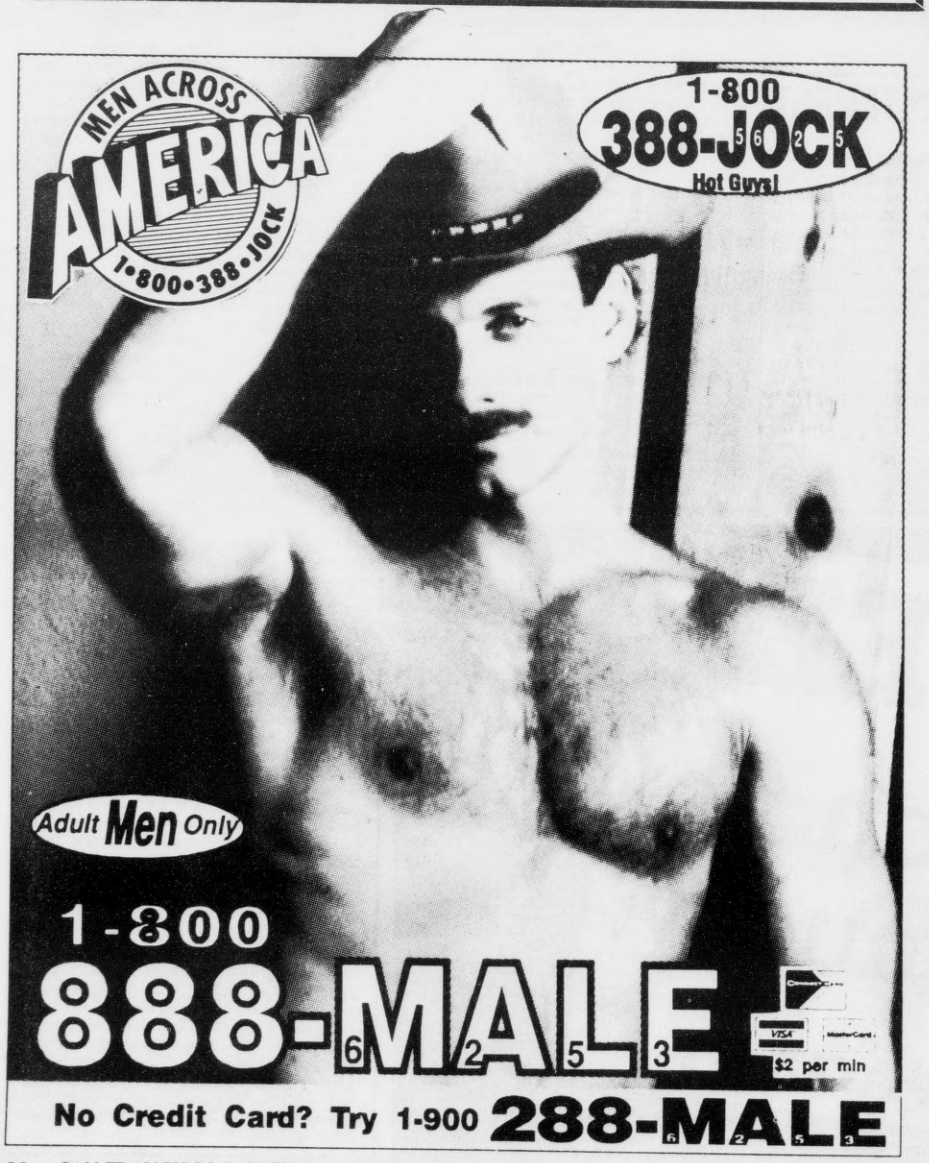
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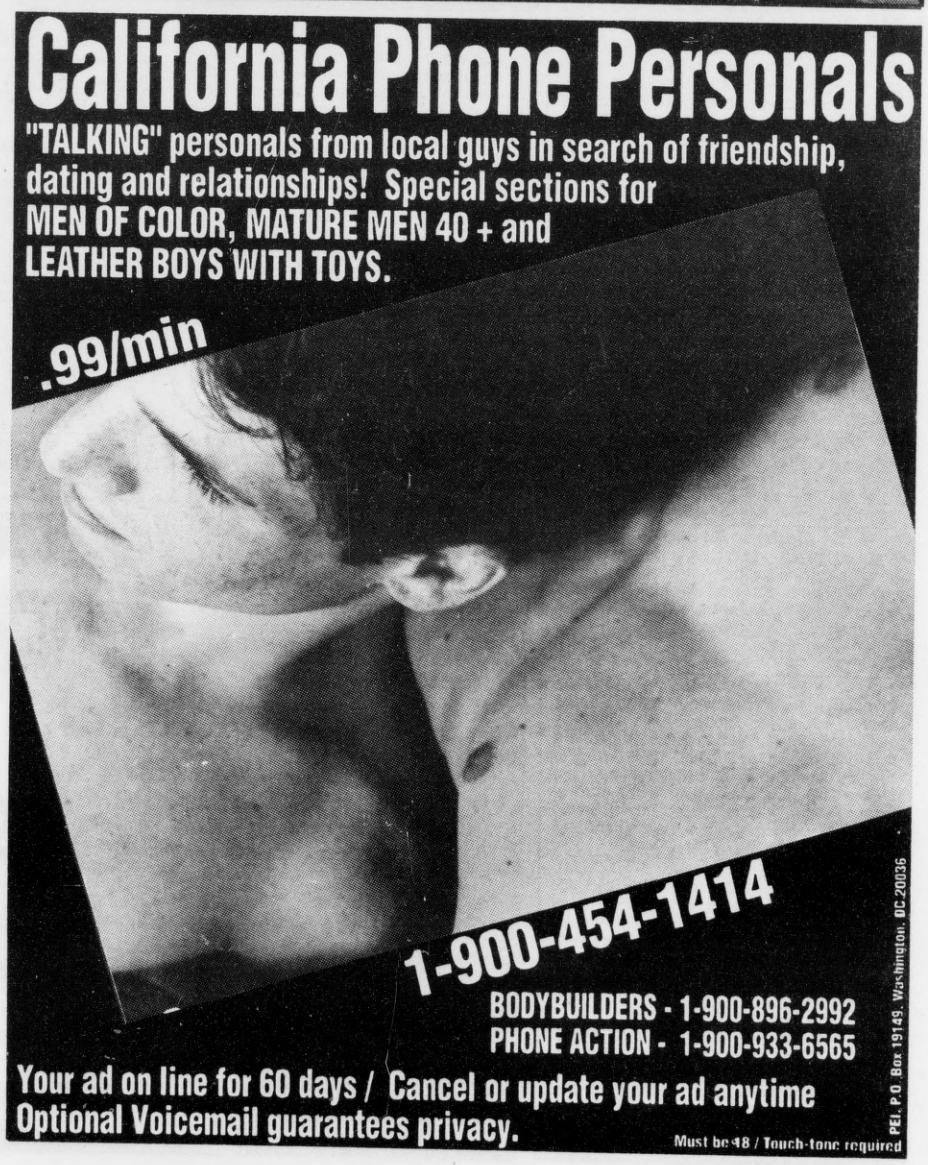
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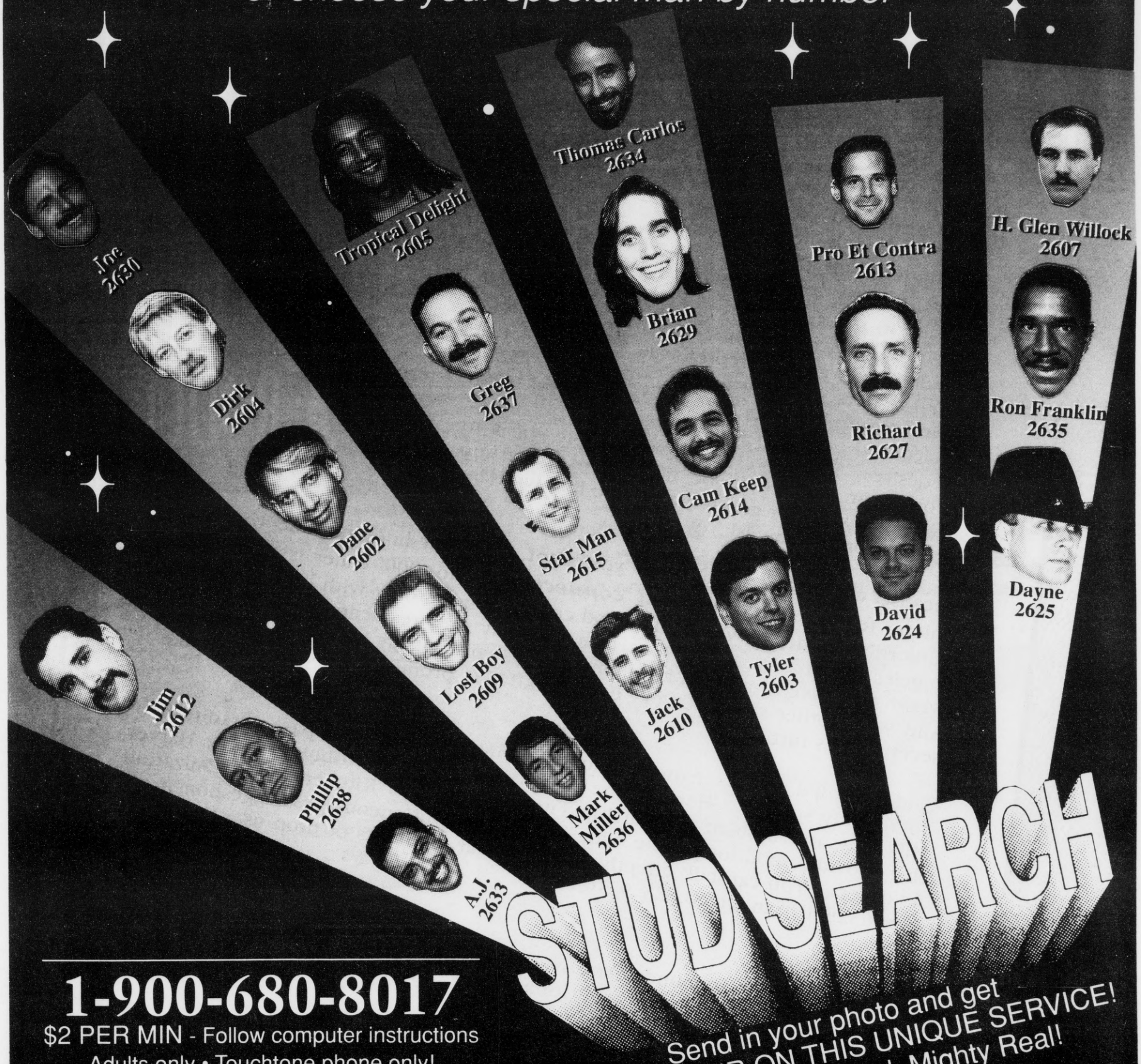

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Over the past months you've hopefully come to know us for what we offer–the best gay 'chat' lines in California. We're a gay owned and operated business that believes in giving back to our community everything it deserves. We know you've probably been burnt by the rip-offs, so we continue to make good on our guarantee: ***Honest services***. No scripted messages, no 'hired' callers, no hidden charges or credit cards necessary. Just real customers speaking to each other, one-on-one or in group scenes, assisted by our own experienced operators who understand your needs and desires. It's easy...simply press "O" to speak to an operator, and you'll be moved to any group service you wish, or go onto a private line with any other customer. You ask. We do.

Because we've asked you what you want, Dial Out lines provide you with a unique feature: ***Strictly local connections***. No '900' caller is from outside California...in fact, a West Hollywood caller connects only with others in the Los Angeles metro area, a San Franciscan with Bay Area residents, etc. People with whom you have something in common, guys you actually have a chance to meet. And while other services can't even make *this* promise, we're going to take it several steps further.

And as you'd expect from an honest company, Dial Out has a tradition of community support. Here on the West Coast, we've contributed to The Harvey Milk Gay and Lesbian Scholarship Fund and Mama's Kitchen (an organization that provides food for people with AIDS). Dial Out encourages suggestions from its callers. You can talk directly to one of our operators or drop us a line at PO Box 632850, San Diego, CA 92163-2850.

So watch for our announcement over the next few months and get ready for a whole new world of revolutionary gay phone services. Affordable, uncomplicated, honest...now and into the future.

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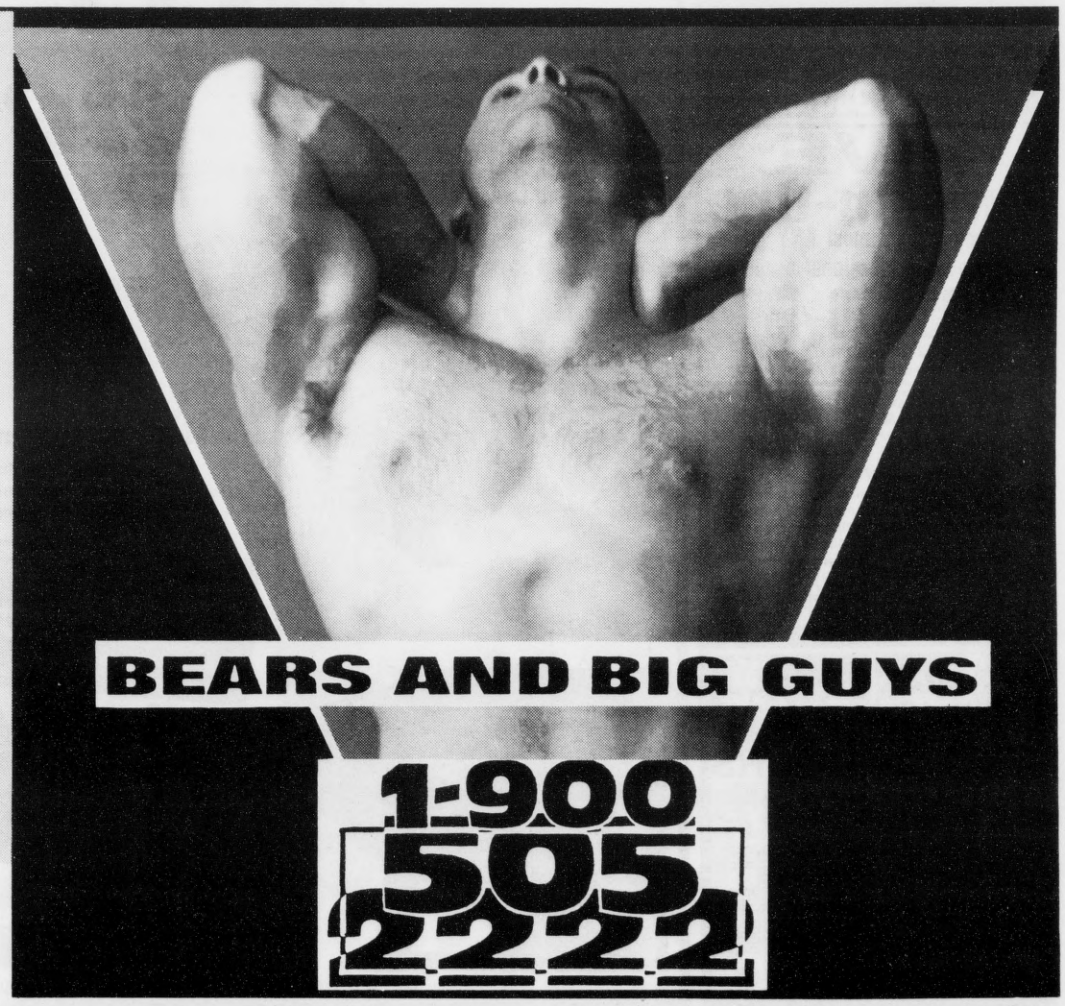

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GWM, 27

Brown/blue, 6'3", seeking friends who enjoy walks, symphony and pop music, art and spirituality. Please write: PO Box 6111, Moraga, 94570. East Bay preferred.

Large Belly??

Do you have a large, prominent belly?—One that sticks way out over your jeans? If so, this masculine, good-looking, slender, 31-year-old GWM who is 6'2", 170 with brown hair, blue eyes, moustache wants to hear from you now! Call ★★5024.

Kinky Romantic

Tall/lean Nordic type, swimmer's build, professional, masculine/monogamous, late 30s, HIV–, versatile but mostly top, pierced, wants non-smoking partner 30-40 for growth-oriented relationship with adventurous, imaginative, intimate and fun (leather) sex/SM. Wanna go exploring/spelunking? Partner should share my fitness commitments (early to gym/drug free) and relationship interests (not just sex). Call ★★5025.

Pleasanton Area

GWM, tall, slim, a young 37 years old, attractive, straight appearing, HIV–. I enjoy exercising, camping, hiking, the beach and romantic dinners. If you're a GWM 25-37; HIV–, 6'+, attractive, in good shape, straight appearing and seeking a monogamous relationship, write PO Box 1285, Pleasanton 94566. A photo appreciated.

69 Partner Wanted

Attractive, discreet GAM (41, 5'8", 144 lbs) with smooth athletic body and warm personality seeks mature GWM with muscular body and friendly personality for safe oral sessions at your place. Moustache and hairy body a plus but not required. Please write w/photo to BT Box DC79B or call ★★5026.

Very Handsome Natural Type

seeks very handsome GWM, about 29, 5'10", who is mature, caring, and energetic (like me) to hang out with. I like my work, enjoy good friends, but want more out of life. I like to swim, hike, and cycle. Returnable photo and letter to BT Box DC80B.

If Anything Is Possible

GWM blond Pacifican, looks included likes to meet friends/possibly more significant. Wants to do outdoor things, ie., hike in Yosemite, ski in Tahoe—though I never have, loves movies like Fatal Attraction—though I'm not one to Dirty Dancing—I'm not Patrick—and Close Encounters of the Third Kind. Into GWM under 25, sense of humor, and attractive. It's difficult to meet special people, even a friend would be nice if anything is possible. Reply BT Box DC81B or call ★★5027.

Professional Seeks Relationship

GWM, 6'2", bl/bl, 180, HIV–, 29, seeks man 25-40 for mature monogamous relationship. I enjoy weight lifting, running, long walks on the beach, cooking pasta, and long safe romantic nights. I'm intelligent, analytical yet intuitive, sensitive yet strong, creative, personable, outgoing, romantic and passionate. Will answer all responses. PO Box 9875, Stanford 94305 or call ★★5028.

Santa Baby

GWM, 39, handsome, look much younger. 5'5, green eyes, brn. hair, slender build, HIV+, healthy, sensitive, good sense of humor, many interests: Horseback riding, movies, beach, reading, dining out, cooking, concerts, staying at home in front of the fire. Comfortable in jeans or tux. I'm a bottom boy. You: Masculine, husky top in your 40s, easygoing and affectionate with similar interests. You might be a daddy type. How about a little romance? Cuddlers and good kissers a plus! To find out which Chimney, write Santa, PO Box 2584, Sausalito 94966. Your photo gets mine.

Latino Gordito!

Donde te escondes? Ya no quiero estar sin ti y necesito la seguridad de tus brazos. Tu: latino gordito, guapo, estudiante universitario o profesionista, de bigote/barba, 23-35 anos. No fumas ni usas drogas y eres sano (HIV–). Eres macho pero tierno, fiel, afectuoso, honrado, sincero y carinoso. Te encanta lo romantico y sabes gozar de la vida. Deseas amar y ser amado de verdad. Buscas relacion monogama, estable y duradera conmigo: latino guapo, gordito (5'8", 185) de aspecto buga, ojos verdes, bigote, 28 anos, estudiante graduado. Sabre bien cuidarte. Empecemos juntos el amor mas fantastico de nuestras vidas. Responde (de preferencia con foto) a Box 72095, Davis 95617.

Retromingent Retrovirus

got you down? Tired of poking the channel changer instead of your honey? This energetic, eclectic 5'9", 157, 40ish, QWM AIDS widow (8 great years), bored with cliched scenes and people, wants to pair with other active cleanshaven HIV+ (AIDS/ARC OK) younger non-clones for fun, support and affection. Artistic, musical, punk, queer-political are pluses. Money, muscle, social and dick status irrelevant. Call ★★5029.

Elf Alert

Leather Dad, 43, 5'10", 160#, HIV–, S&P hair and beard seeks boy/elf ready to offer his gift of submission for the holidays and beyond. Boy is 30-45, handsome, fit, sober, HIV–, eager to please Dad and to commit to sexually active submission in the bedroom and to friendship outside of play scenes. If you've been good, Dad's gifts could make you a happy boy. Reply BT Box DC82B or call ★★5030.

You Pitch?

I catch. Tall guy, 51 yo, somewhat soulful, very cerebral (HIV–) bottom, wants similarly brainy but quite butch guy to go thru life with. You like to lead, I like to follow. Want to leave message and talk it over? Call ★★5031.

I Made A Little List

of what I'd like someone to know about me: young, healthy, talented, idealistic, romantic, expressive, sensuous, independent Cal student, 24, Caucasian, not gorgeous, but appealingly packaged—lean, fit, cleanshaven, non-smoking; seeking an adventurous companion of similar description who possesses a dry wit, a forthright manner, is able and willing to express love. Our goal: exploring the world and each other with honesty, imagination and passion. Reply BT Box DC83B.

Quasi-Intellectual

seeks same. I'm WM, 32, starved for friends with similar interests. I'm into politics, religion, languages (German, French), the Roches, reading (mostly nonfiction), Mozart, trees, Harold and Maude, the New York Times, Vermont, city walks. Open to relationship—I'm 5'11", 165, very attractive, defined, muscular body. Please send detailed letter (with photo if romantic interest). Reply BT Box DC84B or call ★★5032.

You Are Hot Stuff

If you enjoy intelligent (sometimes insane) slim, smooth, sexy, hung Italian artists with healing hands. Please be sexually versatile, anal, 5'9" or shorter in the 145-130 lb. range so we can cuddle. Looking for a partner who loves the outdoors, is physically fit and very "positive". I'm 41 trapped in a 30-year-old body. If you relate, call ★★5033.

Mid-Peninsula

Life in the Burbs—Home Depot. Keppler's. Stanford and its shopping center. Contemporaries and their offspring. Another home improvement project. Something else to plant in the yard. It's all fine, yet there must be other single men nearby of likened mind. This guy is early 40s, 6', 185 lbs,, educated and career-oriented. If you like an Irish mug and a down-home attitude, let's correspond and venture into male bonding in the burbs. Reply to: PO Box 2608, Menlo Park 94026-2608 or call ★★5034.

Guess What?

This 27 year old, 5'9", 150 lb. intellect/saint/notorious slut/bimbo can't wait to meet you! Why? Because of your warmth, sensitivity, wit, creativity, intelligence, work ethic, easy smile, and hatred of things suburban (except parking spaces). Plus, we both love food, cultures, debate and exploration. Sexually, I prefer bottom (in case things get to that point). Please be my age (+/–4), a good guy, and not one who follows the crowd—any crowd. Reply BT Box DC85B or call ★★5035.

Flex Your Muscles

WM, 5'6", 155 lbs, seeks muscular guys of any size into pumping up, oil, mirrors, posing and being admired. Like defined baseball biceps, pecs, veins, hot legs, armpits. Especially seek Asian bodybuilder into showing off his physique. PO Box 426655, SF 94142 or call ★★5036.

Naughty Boys Need Love Too

Sex is nice, but just not enough anymore. Unconventional 23 y.o. Asian, HIV+, would like to meet cleanshaven GWM within 10 years my age for more than one night of incredible sex. Feel up to it? Call ★★5037.

Quiet Man

Attractive, well-built guy seeks another for a weekend affair. Shy but exceptionally horny, 6', 170 lbs, intelligent, varied interests, open to new experiences, good listener, wants to share part of your life. Let's work out, go hiking, take a trip. Substance abuse free. You won't know if you don't take a chance. Letter with photo and phone to: Boxholder, Box #1217, Sebastopol 95473 or call ★★5038.

Partner Inquiry

Mature professional, near 50, 6'2", 195#, hard worker and difficult to please, prominent business owner, HIV–, interested in dynamic, younger, fit gentleman who likes older, distinguished men in general and is seeking one in particular. Prefer confident gent who is "on his way," stable, wants to achieve and shine, can contribute to a dynamic team, can cook and entertain impressively, who enjoys being supportive in a large group or with just the two of us. Likes sharing and initiating romantic interludes. More professional and polished than passionate and ribald. Should be naturally drawn to art, film, music, sports, walking and good conversation with humor. Sound like you? Then send a descriptive letter with photo to Reply BT Box DC86B.

GWM Seeks Sincere GAM

for a very special love affair. I am a masculine, romantic, sexually attractive Irishman, handsome (tough-looking) and ready to meet the right man for a true and lasting partnership of the heart. Friends say I'm a "quality man"—professional, bright, talented, warm, funny, insightful, strong and gentle. I'm 38, tall, 182 pounds, with trim beard and moustache, intense eyes and super-hairy chest, etc. Sexually, I am safe, passionate, versatile and (to be frank) well equipped. I dislike bars and the fast-lane gay style; I'm centered in you-and-me. My history is hetero/bi/gay, but my future is clear and I want to share it with an Asian

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man, probably under 40, who is kind, loving and relationship-ready. We are both HIV-, sane, drug/tobacco free, honest, educated, communicative and able to love (both physically and emotionally) without fear. We treasure our intimacy as we trust our individuality. We wake up together, smooth face resting on hairy chest, my arms around you. We are happy. Help me find you. If you've never responded before, consider what we can offer each other. I don't want to miss out on what we could have together. Letter/photo preferred; kind response guaranteed. Let me be your white Christmas. Reply BT Box DC87B or call ★★5039.

Home For The Holidays

but willing to travel to find a handsome, hunky buddy to share a beautiful country place in Mendocino, city life, travel, adventure & quiet time together. A blue-eyed, attractive, 6'1", 170#, young 42-year-old, well built, with light brown hair & trimmed beard, an active life-style, eclectic interests and a positive outlook on life and love, seeks a compatible friend/companion/lover who is warm-hearted, emotionally mature, interesting, masculine, with a sturdy, muscular physique (preferably younger and shorter than I) of any race. I'm an affectionate lover, safe, versatile, well endowed. My interests include music (Baroque to Brazilian), dancing (C&W to Salsa), ethnic food and culture, progressive politics, ecological living and a grounded, spiritual philosophy. I'm open to relationship possibilities from weekend boy-friend to live-in lover. (I avoid heavy users of drugs, alcohol or tobacco.) Write me about yourself. Please include a photo. I'll respond. Boxholder, PO Box 2423, Ft. Bragg 95437.

A Diamond In The Rough

I'm a good-hearted, sane-minded, good-looking GWM, 32 y/o, 6'1", 175 lbs (wear 32W/34L Levis), brn hair and big blue eyes, live in Contra Costa County; work in SF. I'm educated, but not overly-educated; professionally employed, but not a snob, alcohol & drug free (my choice), HIV –, not to mean this is a requirement for you; and possess a healthy sense of humor—this IS a requirement for you. I'm not interested in a heavy-duty romance at this point in time, but would like more than just a sex partner...a boyfriend perhaps? I'd say I'm fairly "well-rounded," and my time alone is as impt. as my time in company. I'm most attracted to guys my height or taller, 27-47, w/similar qualities as myself. If what I've written strikes a chord, this diamond in the rough awaits your reply. Reply BT Box DC88B or call ★★5040.

Straight From The Heart

An unusual WM (mid-thirties) with boyish movie star good looks and bedroom eyes (honest!) seeking dynamic young guy (18-28), who wants to share a nurturing, open relationship with a very special, sensitive guy as we explore our sensual, spiritual, and emotional natures together. Am energetic and intriguing, with lots of style and pizzazz. Would love to meet an unjaded sexy young guy who's tired of all the BS and mindgames out there. Prefer guy who's athletic, built, straight-acting—a real tiger at times but a real teddy bear at heart. If this sounds like you, then call ★★5041.

Romantic, But Slightly Cynical

I'm also very affectionate and demonstrative, stable and communicative. young 40-year-old, 5'10½", 160 lbs., dark brown curly hair, green eyes, trim beard, hairy, seeks energetic man in touch with his feelings, sensitive to those of others, comfortable with intimacy. I have a healthy lifestyle (natural foods, no drugs), varied interests (esp. languages, travel, current events, modern European culture), good sense of humor, am very oral. Please reply with photo (returned) to Reply BT Box DC89B or call ★★5042.

Just Myself!

Straight-looking GWM, dark hair, brown eyes, 6'1", 185, 29, very healthy, professional, romantic, passionate HIV – with great smile, looking for an all-American boy financially secure, mature, honest, no drugs, 25-35. We'll almost travel everywhere, dress well, romantic with a great sense of humor. Please send me brief note with photo which will be returned. Reply BT Box DC90B or call ★★5043.

I'm Dreaming Of A Meaningful Relationship

I "came out" a year ago hoping to meet people, get a chance to get to know them, and then form appropriate relationships, but have discovered that in the case of men I have met in bars, they want to have sex first, and then get to know me later. I may be somewhat naive, but if all I can be assured of is someone's body, I don't feel comfortable exposing myself to the emotional, and various other hazards experienced as a result of this lifestyle. I'm 33 years old, apparently attractive (by estimates of my pursuers), enjoy tennis, sci-fi, foreign languages, cooking, conversation, working out, camping, natural settings, and meaningful intimacy. I'm hoping to meet someone with similar values, but not necessarily the exact same interests. Preferably a non-smoker, non or light drinker, attractive, 26-37 years old, and HIV – like myself. Walnut Creek/Berkeley area. Call ★★5044.

I Love Me

Would like to love you. Let me! Older, taller, heavier, stocky, well built WM arouse me. BM 47, 5'9", 165, affectionate, loyal, HIV –, and safe, seeks a top for friend and relationship. No smokers, pets, drugs. Photo to: Box 28283, Oakland 94604 or call ★★5045.

GWM with bent for leather seeks cub, pal, buddy. Would prefer a courtship and high romance but the times call for a pragmatic approach. Me: Positive, healthy, gym-toned, cycling fit. Study painting, enjoy gallery hopping, southern drawls, cuddling, good sense of humor, lefty politics, and playful outlooks. You could be someone completely different! Call ★★5046.

Handsome, Muscular Italian

GWM, 34, 6'2", 175 lbs., into travel, fitness, romance and quiet times. Extremely well endowed seeks another HIV – very well hung man with similar interests for monogamous relationship. Leave description, name and number. Call ★★5047.

Looking For Big Dude With Spirit

WM, 6, 190, 41 years, HIV –, bearded man with athletic body, on a spiritual path, seeks hairy, tall/heavy man with a football player's hard build. I seek a very straight masculine type of earthy/worldly buddy with non-mainstream ideals who is strong, protective, gentle, independent, self-contained, and guided, who is looking for his child-like innocent starry-eyed counterpart. I enjoy the frontiers of consciousness of a "mountain man type" becoming Whole with his little boy part, his Larger Free Spirit, the wounds of the past, the addictions of the present, and all else that was always love, but forgotten. Reply BT Box DC91B or call ★★5049.

Good-looking Bodybuilder (HIV+)

I'm 30 yrs. old, look 26, good-looking Latin and Caucasian mix (look Italian). 5'8, 155 lbs. Sincere, spiritual, positive attitude, monogamy, love to cook, nature, animals, theater, travel and much more. I'm looking for someone very similar who wants to share life, love, and happiness, and doesn't have a negative attitude about their body, personality, or death. If interested, please send a photo and note to: BT Box DC92B. Photo is a must! I'll return everyone's photo upon request. Thanks.

Cool Dates

Hot sex, warm eyes, and eternal bliss. Or best offer. GWM 29, medium build, tall, hairy, balding (!), sexually versatile and creative. I like scotch, reading, visual arts, slim guys, scooters, clubs and bars, deep thought, sweaters, coffee, socks, green, and walking my dog. Don't like mustaches, Barbara, or straight-acting. Haven't tried x, Aspen, or snails. Reply 1072 Folsom, Box 345, SF 94103 or call ★★5051.

Leather Christmas Stocking

Great hairy pecs, winning smile, soft greenish-brown eyes on masculine, aggressive animal, 38, HIV –. Tie this one to your mantle, hang balls low below, stoke up a fire, give commands and make your fantasies come true for life! Photo available for your review. Ready and willing to travel or relocate for Dungeon Duty. You're in charge, Sir! 5 Town & Country Village, Box #728, San Jose 95128-2026.

Smells Like Teen Spirit

Wholesome anarchist desires beautiful brooding youngsters (18+) for physical, mental, and emotional torture. Pubic hair a plus, but not necessary. Call ★★5052.

We Play Together

2 QWM over 6', cleanshaven, HIV – together 9 years (30/37) looking for bottoms who want fulfillment in all the right places. Safe, in-shape and cleanshaven only. 21-35. Any race. Reply BT Box DC94B or call ★★5053.

Want To Be Drawn

by a good artist? You might enjoy posing nude for sensual drawings. Men who model for me say it is relaxing yet exhilarating. You get to keep your choice of the colored pencil-and-pastel results. Clip this ad and think about it:—maybe an enjoyable session in 1992? Reply BT Box DC95B or call ★★5054.

To The Exceptional Man

Your Dec. 5 number (4874) won't connect! Don't overlook a fellow aussergewohnlicher (exceptional man). I'm 25, European, 6'2", prof. male. Intelligent, refined, tri-lingual...so romantic. A little idealistic, usually realistic. Passionate about all which moves me, and few things disinterest me. Music, my writing, foreign cinema & antiques are my weaknesses. k.d. lang—you know a great voice. Remember, Patsy was 1st. Also, Maria McKee, Diane Schuur, Nancy Wilson, Mahalia, any sax solo from any Sade track. To know the important info., please write for further enlightenment. Reply BT Box DC96B or call ★★5055.

Slim Chinese Or Viet Wanted

Warm WM, young for 42, 6'2", 173 lbs., cleanshaven, blue eyes, brown hair, HIV –, seeks slim to skinny guy 21-35. I'm affectionate, good listener, mental health professional. Prefer warm-hearted, relationship-oriented guy, nonsmoker, who exercises and doesn't like bars. Ideally seeking lover; open to sincere friendship. Reply PO Box 210202, SF 94121. (Like Chinese, Vietnamese, but open to slim guy any race.) Call ★★5056.

Mature Asians

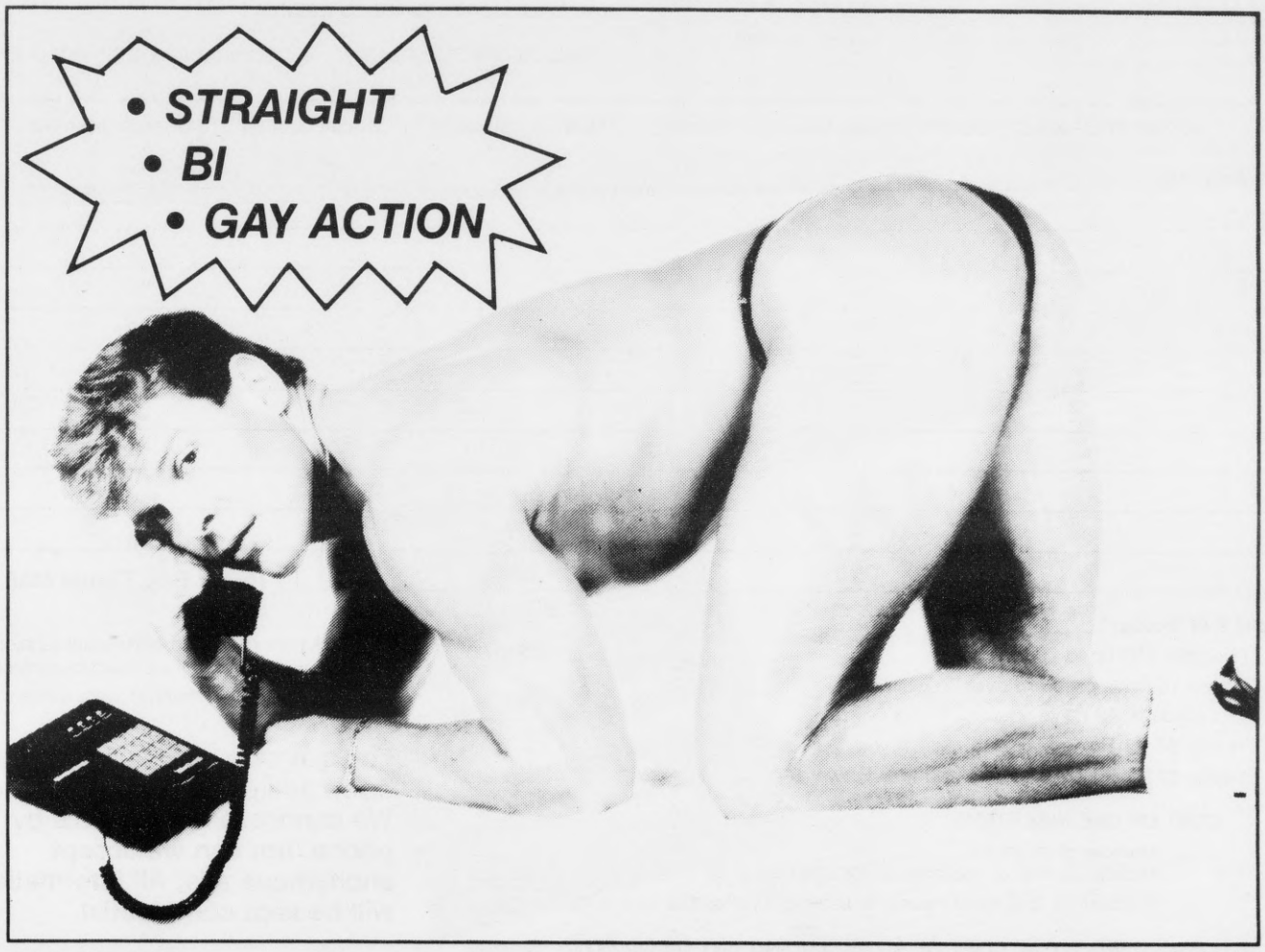
A kind, quiet, considerate, masculine, discreet, well-educated, well-traveled, professional, GWM, 55, 6', 170 lbs, HIV –, who does not enjoy the bar scene, but does have many interests, including outdoors, sports, weekend trips, dining in or out, cuddling, would like to meet you. Looks, age, not important, but being sincere, considerate, and masculine in appearance and ac-

"Tell me about your first time!"

1-800-677-MENN

6 3 6 6

99¢ per 1/2 min. Billed to your MC/VISA as 4600 Inc.



"Big, hot and horny."

1-800-888-HUNK

4 8 6 5

Billed to your MC/VISA as Lion Telesys 99¢ per 1 2 min

tions are. Please reply with a letter and photo (optional) or leave message. Reply BT Box DC97B or call ★★5057.

Incarcerated 26-year-old W/M interested in sincere and understanding friend who's a supportive gay male. At this time correspondence is only method for communication. Reply BT Box DC98B.

Black Bodyworker
offers sensual, stimulating but non-sexual sessions for mature, masculine men with football-player-like builds. No $. A mellow, relaxing, intimate experience for us both (no reciprocation required). Very serious, discreet, honest men only please. Occupant, PO Box 7441, Oakland 94601.

A Balanced Life Together
Handsome, prof. GWM, light brown hair, blue/green eyes, 5'11", 155 lbs., clean-cut, boy-next-door good looks (not a small accomplishment for mid-40s!), wants to meet equally youthful but mature GWM to permanently share bed and breakfast. Please answer if you want a monogamous relationship with a balance of outdoor, cultural and home-oriented activities. Do you value financial stability, a good sense of humor, sensitivity, honesty and being comfortable with the gentle aspects of your personality? Are you active, health-conscious, enjoy the fine arts, travel, reading, animals and keeping current on the ways of the world? Hopefully you'll also have a slim-to-average build, average or proportional endowment and be an HIV – non-smoker like me. I'm a comfortable and affectionate lover who is happy sharing the responsibilities of lovemaking. Photo appreciated and returned with mine. Please Reply BT Box DC99B.

Assume The Position...
over my knee for quick, fun slaps with my hand or until your beefy buns glow. Gdlkng GWM, 20s, friendly, nicely endowed, good hands, will administer well-deserved warming to your rear if you are under 30 & in good shape. Wear your tightest jeans & get over my knee to fulfill your discipline fantasies. Sound good? Then I'd like to hear from you. Reply BT Box DC73B or call ★★5017.

Bearded Berkeley Bicyclist
BiWM, trim beard, 6'1", 165 lbs., looks 32 (I'm 39). I'm HIV – and nonsmoker. Into mountain bicycling, touring, 3rd World travel, comedy, Plearn's Thai restaurant, bicycle advocacy, Indian music, electronic design, mountain climbing. I'm looking for friendship and adventure, especially a guy with beard and/or endurance. Open to relationship. I like "top" best. Write "Bicyclist," 131 Berkeley Square #291, Berkeley 94704.

Ready To Try Again
Reserved good-looking career-oriented GLM 40, 5'5", 170#, dark brown eyes, short brown hair greying at the temples, moustache, sincere, well-educated (Ph.D. student), sexually versatile, HIV –, employed (nurse psychotherapist). Family is important to me. Enjoy aerobics, symphony, walk along the beach, exploring the city and the wine country. Would like to learn to two-step, would you teach me? Seeking warm-hearted, sincere, compassionate, sexually versatile, non-pretentious, relationship-oriented HIV – GWM, GBM, GAM, non-smoker, non-drugger, non-to-light drinker. Weight in proportion to height,. 35-45. You are able to stand on your own two feet, are sure of yourself, can communicate what you want and are comfortable with your gayness and with public affection. Would also prefer a man who is middle of the road with regard to the masculine-femininity spectrum, not too macho and not too feminine. Photo (xerox) welcomed. Please respond to BT Box DC74B or call ★★5018.

Submissive Dad Seeks Dominant Son
Looking for that rare young (18+) man who gets hard at the prospect of reversing roles. This successful professional, forties, trim, 5'10", 163, attractive, craves to be put in his place by loving son who enjoys ordering dad around, light slaps, wrestling games (I give!), etc. Should be easy-going, drug-free. Points for being bright, capable of giving & receiving affection. Call ★★5020.

Bottoms Up
That's me. Hard, eager, and maybe a bit nasty—that's you. East Bay GBM, masculine, smoker, almost 40, 5'4", 145, bubble butt needs verbal, seductive, over-sexed, HIV – top in reasonable shape. Must relish being on top as much as I enjoy being bottom. Not looking for shared interests, just lots of safe hot sex. Even so, we need to feel comfortable, at ease, and desirous when we are together, so let's meet and see what comes up. Reply BT Box DC75B or call ★★5019.

Younger Guy Wanted
GWM, attractive, have modeled, 25, trim, athletic, very healthy and clean, sincere seeks younger trim sincere guy, promise to answer your response. Photo please! Your photo gets mine before we meet if you want. Reply BT Box DC76B.

Handsome Irishman
GWM, 26, 6', 150 lbs., blu/brwn masc. professional, nonsmoker, HIV –, enjoys dogs, movies, dancing, music. Not heavily into the bar scene. Seeking masculine, muscular, clean-shaven HIV – guys to date. Photo appreciated. Reply PO Box 460024, SF 94146.

Just My Type
Are you the cute, long-haired, clean-shaven, wire-rim glasses type? Soft spoken, intelligent and probably an introvert? Fond of reading and nature? This bright, clean-cut, muscular GWM (36, 5'10", 180) would like to meet you...for friendship, outings and maybe some cuddling. PO Box 190042, SF 94119 or call ★★5021. Bonus points for athletic build.

Young White Male 18-25
I'm looking for a young white male who is sincere, intelligent, articulate, attractive, masculine, and who has a trim, boyish swimmer's body with minimal body hair. Someone who would be interested in a buddy/"kid brother"/mentor (not S/M) relationship with a GWM 40-years-old, 5'9", 150 pounds, HIV –. I'm sensitive, emotional, affectionate, and a good listener. I don't use tobacco, alcohol, or other recreational drugs and I don't like the bar scene. I enjoy movies, reading, long walks, weekends away, and time with friends. Send me a note along with your photograph and say hello but please don't waste my time or yours if you do not fit the description above. Write to: Boxholder, 2261 Market St., #451, SF 94114.

Foreskin!
If you like it, I've got alot of it and want to share it. Cut/uncut welcome. Reply to TNM, POB 460795, SF 94146.

Husky Dad
Masculine, good-looking, bearded, HIV –, clean, straight-acting-and-looking sports-minded dad looking for same or hairy cubs to cuddle. Facial photo and phone number get immediate response. PO Box 722, Campbell 95009 or call ★★5016.

Heart, Mind, Body, Soul
Clean and sober, nonsmoking, wildly affectionate GWM, 36, 5'10", 160, funny, friendly, interesting, intelligent, left-minded, musical, earthy, playful, masculine, versatile, adventurous, bearded, fairly hairy and HIV –, seeks spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual connection with a similar self-respecting man, preferably in recovery. Write: Boxholder, 2261 Market #153, SF 94114 or call ★★5048.

Young Guy Wanted
GWM, attractive, 25, trim, athletic, very healthy and clean, inexperienced, sincere, seeks to meet younger and trim guy. Promise to answer your response. Photo please. Reply BT Box DC77B.

"Just Can't Figure It Out"
One minute I'm fantasizing about husky, virile 50-year-olds with big cocks and attitude, the next I'm dreaming about the short, beautiful, wildly intelligent kid of 26 who used to live downstairs. As for me, I'm 44, GWM, 5'6", 140, HIV –, hairy, moustached, good-looking (I guess), oral, romantic, sensual and, yep, confused. (Maybe it's the caffeine.) Suggestions? Letters? Photos? Phone sex? Erotic correspondence? A date? One night? Or a lifetime of love & sharing? Reply BT Box DC78B.

I've Got Life, Brother
Can you trip your way through the end of the 21st century and beyond? HIV +, 28 yo GWM, 5'10", 200 pudgy lbs., long black curls, dark, soulful eyes, darker psyche seeks out the real deal: Men who've already experienced themselves in others and are ready to move on to someone who's entirely different. I'm direct, abrasive, intolerant, indifferent, sexy, hideous, irresistable, irrepressible, irreversible. I hope to fascinate you as much as you fascinate me. Figuring you out is half the fun, having you is the other half. All this fun makes it easy to live in this difficult age. Photos (especially explicit ones) returned. Gifts (especially expensive ones) kept. Reply BT Box DC93B or call ★★5050.

We Won't Rest Until You Are Satisfied Socially

Next Deadline for All Ads: Dec 27 for Jan 2

How To Respond to a "Call Star" Personal Ad

CALL 1-900-844-2-GAY. Using a Touch-Tone phone, you can reply to any ad that has "Call ★★" with a Call Star Extension number. This is your chance to hear the advertiser's voice! Call their extension and leave a personalized message, or see if this sounds like an advertiser you'd like to write to. It's almost as easy as leaving a message on a friend's answering machine. And the advertiser gets your message immediately.

FOLLOW THE EASY INSTRUCTIONS when you call. You can either enter the Call Star Extension of a specific ad that interests you, or you can browse through a variety of greetings and respond to any or all of them. Select the ads you wish to leave messages for and record your responses. Be sure to include your telephone number and the best times to call. Calls cost 96 cents per minute and will appear on your monthly telephone bill.

How To Get a "Call Star" Voice Mail Box

IT'S SIMPLE AND FREE!! You'll automatically get a free voice mail box with your personal ad unless you check the box below. You'll receive a letter from us with your Call Star extension and your secret password, as well as detailed instructions on how to use the system. Remember: recording your greeting and retrieving your messages are **FREE.**

How To Reply by Mail to a SF Bay Times Personal Ad

SEND IN YOUR LETTERS: If the advertiser has a BT Reply Box, send your reply to Bay Times Personals, 288 7th Street, SF 94103. In the lower left hand corner of the envelope place the box number (not the Call Star Extension!) you are answering. Mail boxes remain open for two months; i.e. this issue's ads may be answered through Feb 19. Voice mail boxes remain open for four weeks.

How To Pick Up Your Written Replies

BT REPLY BOX MAIL PICK-UP: You may pick up your mail Monday through Friday from 1-6pm. If you do not have your own P.O. Box, you must get a BT mail box. Feel free to call us during the regular pick-up hours to find out if you have mail, and please limit your calls to these hours! *You must bring picture I.D. to pick up your mail at the office.*

MAIL BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR 2 MONTHS
VOICE MAIL BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR FOUR WEEKS
MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED WEEKLY

QUESTIONS? Call the SF Bay Times office at (415) 626-8121 and ask for Greta.

SUGGESTED AD CATEGORY (Check One): ☐ Women ☐ Men ☐ Bisexual ☐ Social Groups ☐ Shared Interests

HEADLINE: _____

TEXT: _____

☐ **Reply Bay Times Mail Box**

Total # of Words: _____

☐ Enclose $10 up to 70 words $10.00
☐ Enclose 15 cents per word **over** 70 words:
____ words × 15 cents equals . . . . . ____
☐ Enclose $7 for Reply Mail Box . . . . . ____
☐ Enclose $11 for Reply Mail Box and Mail Forwarding . . . . . ____

COST OF ONE INSERTION . . . . . ____
____Number of insertions:
Multiply by cost of one insertion for total cost of ad . . . . . ____
Discount for 3 or more insertions: subtract 10% of total cost of ad . . . ____

ENCLOSED TOTAL COST OF AD, INCLUDING ANY DISCOUNTS: $____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (weekdays) _____ **(eves)** _____

☐ Check here if it's OK to leave a message on your answering machine if we need to contact you
☐ Check here if you do NOT want a free voice mail box

You may stop by the office at the below address to fill out a coupon. **We cannot take personals by phone, nor can we accept anonymous ads. All information will be kept confidential.**

Mail Coupon To:
SF Bay Times Personals
288 7th Street, SF, CA 94103

NEXT DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

WORD COUNTS/PRICE INFO: 'A,' 'and,' 'the,' zip codes, PO Boxes, etc. should all be included in your word counts. There are no refunds for ads. If there is an error in your ad which substantially affects the value of the ad, we will issue you a credit to rerun the ad. If you have submitted an ad which does not fall within our editorial guidelines and we are unable to notify you, we will issue a credit to run a different ad.

ADVERTISING GUIDELINES In placing an ad, you must not use names, telephone numbers or street addresses. The San Francisco Bay Times hopes that you will submit ad copy in keeping with our general editorial policies. Ads should stress those qualities the advertiser finds compatible rather than target specific lifestyles, races or other aspects in a negative manner. We understand the difference between discrimination and personal preference. If your ad does not fall within the realm of our guidelines, we may notify you and allow you to make the necessary alterations. We reserve the right to edit ads. We reserve the right to reject any ad whatsoever.

Remember: speech isn't as free on the telephone as it is in the newspaper. Government regulations forbid the "F-word" recorded on phone lines and other such direct communication. Have fun but be sensible.

SAN FRANCISCO Bay Times

a FREE 70-word voice mail personal ad for January

As a special gift for this Solstice/ Chanukah/ Christmas/ It's- Finally- About-To- Start- Getting- Light- Earlier- Again season.

FREE PERSONAL AD!

- Find a buddy to warm up your days
- Find a honey to heat up your nights
- Find a sweetheart to light up your heart

Have fun! Go wild! Just fill out the coupon on page 50 and return it to our office by Dec. 27. Your ad will appear in one of our January issues. It's on us!**

**If your ad is longer than 70 words, please include the extra 15 cents for each word over 70 words. If you want a Bay Times Mail Reply Box as well as voice mail, please add the additional $7 (to pick up your mail in our office) or $11 (for weekly mail forwarding), as printed on the coupon.

Bi BISEXUAL

Sun And Moon
Transsexual woman seeks Sun to her Moon. I'm the Piscean, nesting-type who likes dancing, dinners, the ocean. I realize answering this can expose you to all sorts of social criticism ("Did you hear what so-and-so is going out with?" "She's not a real woman.") Hey, I know that. I also know if we hit it off it won't matter what people say, and I'll stand by you. (If you like what you've just read but only want to hang out, that's fine.) To find out more call ★★4535.

Santa Cruz Drag Queen
Closet-free straight crossdresser wants to meet ladies (bi-OK) who appreciate the chance to double their wardrobe. Have sense of humor & am warm and caring. Love dinners out, moderate drinker & NS. Get in touch and we'll play Barbie. Can entertain or travel. Relationship possible. PO Box 2703, Santa Cruz 95063 or call ★★4777.

Needle In A Haystack Or What Are You, Crazy?
BWM desperately wants a child. Pe... having a child a... female lover. Why... the year 2002. W... worlds, a child, a f... 165, brwn/grn, pr... clever, successful... yadee—You shou... could work. Drop... ly BT Box DC300...

S SHARED INTEREST

Two-Step Partner
I'm a lesbian, wanting an intermediate level lesbian dance partner or buddy to go out dancing at the Rawhide & Corral with. Prefer a leader who sometimes likes to follow but am flexible. I am 40, very friendly, and have quite a varigated background. Call soon. Call ★★4806.

Classical Musicians—Sightreaders
Patient, kind, sensitive professional accompanist/voice coach seeks other capable instrumentalists/singers for informal, artistic (but light-hearted) music-making. If you are a careful, thoughtful musician (who may have "blocks") who needs a like-minded friend to share with, you owe it to yourself to explore this opportunity. Let's chat! (I have a fine piano and transportation.) Call ★★4807.

Lovers Of The Grape!
Ladakh, Zanskar (Tibetan kingdoms now in India) in July-Aug. Cross passes to 16000 feet. Visit monasteries. Possibly also tour in Malaysia, hike in Nepal. Open to other places, times. Go to most expensive hotels, only $5/day at most to win of 3rd world! Write "World Bicyclist," 131 Berkeley Square #291, Berkeley 94704.

Fiber Fanatics
I didn't respond to your October ad quick enough. Your group sounded fun to me. Would like to meet with others who like to knit, spin, weave, etc. Reply BT Box DC600A or call ★★4809.

I Love My New Home!
...transplanted Easterner seeks compa... walks (East Bay), camping, ...arts (esp. folk/ethnic ...Bay Area. I'm ...

M MEN

Combo Platter
Ostensibly you are reading these ads for sex. Secretly, though, you are seeking intimacy, perhaps even—if you admit your wildest fantasy—love. But as a man you cannot freely admit that. You may even deny it. Yet here you are, still reading. Very young men have little to ...many older men are too set in their ...the delicious combo platter ...spirited heart. The ...come to ...

places. I am looking for someone these interests and wants to explore... Photo with letter please to: PO Box 93920.

No, My Dick Is Not Shaped Like A Hamburger
or a flying saucer, or an atomic bo... what you're into. Don't come to me ... up on bedding down Tom Cruise. I ... in control of my head and know ... what I'm seeking. I'm 40, 5'10", sli... hair and graying beard. Hity ... and ... I'm good-looking. And dammit, ... people do not get me hard and ... who has a real personality is not int... and is not afraid of committing to ... has varied interests and enjoys a w... more than a walk through the cas... take second place to your pe... though you need not be a Rhodes ... be able to talk about more th... and, sex. If you think you can d... person and you crave more than ... quick lay, write to Charlesion Chair... St. #151, SF 94114-2588 or call ... de a photo (returnable) and ... real catch.

W WOMEN

I Believe You're Out There Somewhere
At least I want to believe it, still, though I've been looking for a very long time. I hope you show up before I give up hoping for love in this lifetime. I'm a firesign, 12/2/41, professional, middle class. I like contemporary novels and movies, to laugh, dance, walk on Ocean Beach and in G.G. Park, I draw a little, write a little, rare etoh, smoke/toke, I'm kinda shy, quirky about food (not vegetarian), sincere, perceptive, have a complicated schedule. In my dreams you're my age range ± 5 y., live in SF—so we can enjoy it together, have a nice face, average body you're companionable, ready to share experiences, fun, laughter, love, sex (we might like each other better if we slept together) if so. Call ★★4726.

Sun And Moon
Transsexual woman seeks sun to her moon. I'm the Piscean, nesting-type who likes dancing, dinners, the ocean. I realize answering this can expose you to all sorts of social criticism ("Did you hear what so-and-so is going out with?" "She's not a real woman.") Hey, I know that. I also know if we hit it off it won't matter what people say, and I'll stand by you (If you like what you've just read but only want to hang out, that's fine.) To find out more. Call ★★4727.

True/False Quiz
Do you like: 1) intelligent women with a fun sense of humor, 2) similarities yet differences, 3) stimulating conversations about everything, 4) Midwest politeness, 5) good friends, 6) a 30s woman with 20s energy, 7) sports, especially ...on, softball, golf, tennis, football or pool, ...eral yet fiscally conservative ...ssing a dream, 10) ...sexual ...activities, also private time alone, 12) being a unique, independent woman in a close relationship, 13) exploring, travelling, questioning, tinkering, envisioning, 14) San Francisco, 15) nonsmokers, 16) the outdoors, 17) art, music, photography, 18) bargains, 19) motorcycles, 20) singing/songwriting. How Did You Score? 15-20 Why haven't we met before now?, 10-14 Interesting possibilities, 6-10 Possible friendship, 0-5 Next ad. Reply BT Box DC1A or ca...

Take A Walk On The Tame Side
Quiet vanilla lesbian, transplanted Midwestern farmer's daughter late 30s soft of center, st... professional seeks other quiet, spirited wo... 30s-40s to share simple pleasures, travel, ... dinners, movies, music, outdoors. First ... then maybe more. Nonsmokers only. Re... Box DC2A or call ★★4729.

Curious? Interested in a small adventur... with a passion for life visiting SFO ... 12/20-1/1 for bicycling, photography ... want to dine alone.) Likes Brazilian ... Depeche Mode music, dancing ... pagne. Nonsmokers—no drugs. It... 35, energetic, enjoy cycling and ... mischievous writer/photo op or cal... romance out the old year. A... F... Venice, 90294-2342 or call ★★...

Great-Looking Older ...
GJWF. I am very attractive, ... although mat are woman. Blend ... tion, light eyes. Determined to ... loving and adventuresome ... n come after a tedious 15 ye... should love music, thea... movies, cafes, travel, pets ... Looking to meet someone ... and companionship. Let ... nice dinner together and ... 425 Corte Madera 349...

Attractive Asia...
Both financially and em... settle down. I conside... ing and romantic. I ... traveling, dining out a ... pretty, 30+, single ... feminine woman for ... Don't miss this rare ... Call ★★4731.

Meeting Of Th...
Professional (P... dependent life ... share it with th...

Come Celebrate Q Years Eve

club Q
"a dance party for women"

NEW YEARS EVE SPECTACULAR!!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1991 —1748 HAIGHT STREET

DJ's Mixtress Page Hodel and
Annie "Fingertips" Buerhause—$10

A Special Dance Performance
by the club Q Dancers—Party Favors